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# Maclean's

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE AUGUST 11 1991 \$3.15A NO. 33

## CONTENTS

### 4 EDITORIAL

### 6 LETTERS/PASSAGES

### 8 OPENING NOTES

Arthur Kent breaks the news: Ronald Reagan breaks the ice. Reagan's prime-time speech on underground revolution appears in Paris; the Kennedy myth takes a beating in Palm Beach, Fla.; grouse pastures are planned for Banff, B.C.; Wayne Gretzky goes to Ottawa; some critics cry farewell.

### 11 COLUMN/CHARLES GORDON

### 12 CANADA

New Scotia blacks see peril and promise in a recent rash of violent racial incidents; Larrance (Bambi) Bonbrink, a former Milwaukee police officer who was convicted of murder, fights to stay in Canada; former governor general Roland Michener dies at 91.

### 18 WORLD

Former close friends prepare to kill each other in Yugoslavia's internal fighting; an international banking scandal touches Canada.

### 25 PEOPLE

### 26 BUSINESS

Canada's major airlines are struggling to financially turbulent times; the city of Ottawa's dreams of an NHL franchise are as porous.

### 29 BUSINESS WATCH/PETER C. NEWMAN

### 30 COVER

### 38 SPORTS

Canadian rower Silken Laumann has set her sights on a gold medal at next week's world championships in Vienna.

### 39 FILMS

In director Alan Parker's *The Commitments*, an Irish bar band finds its soul in the music of black America.

### 40 BOOKS

A controversial study examines internal conflicts within the Mohawks; celebrity biographer Kitty Kelley gets a taste of her own medicine; Ann Reardon has produced a sharply observed short-story collection.

### 44 GUEST COLUMN/STEWART MacLEOD

## COVER

### MID-LIFE PANIC

As the number of Canadians over 65 grows, thousands of adults find themselves pressured to look after elderly parents as well as their own children. The effect on members of what some experts call the Sandwich Generation can be emotionally and physically exhausting. The problem is likely to become even more widespread in Canada as the number of elderly Canadians grows. — 36



## NATION

### SOLIDARITY IN BLUE

Despite a Quebec MP's walkout and angry demonstrations outside a Toronto convention centre, Conservative party members emerged from a five-day policy meeting with new optimism about their prospects of securing a third victory when Prime Minister Brian Mulroney calls an election. — 12



## WORLD

### THE END OF AN ORDEAL

British journalist John McCarthy celebrated freedom after more than five years in a hostage of Lebanese extremists in Lebanon. His release raised hopes that at least one more captive Westerner might soon be set free—and that a wider deal to release all hostages in Lebanon might be in the making. — 18







# OPENING NOTES

The Kennedy scandal fuels T-shirt sales, anchors aweigh for Arthur Kent, and town criers lose their voice

## A STAR IS LAUNCHED

One of the few Canadian barons to emerge from the Gulf War was NBC TV newsmen Arthur Kent. The handsome 37-year-old brother of veteran CBC journalist Peter Kent earned the nickname "Good Stud" for his confessional reports from the war-torn streets of Baghdad, Saudi Arabia, during the war. Now, rumors are flying that NBC is grooming the native of Medicine Hat, Alta., to replace Tom Brokaw as anchor of the *Nightly News*. Executives deny the rumors but, for two weeks beginning on Aug. 18, Kent will anchor the *Nightly News* while Brokaw is away. Sources close to Kent say that he is uncomfortable with his star status. (Playboy magazine recently named him one of the "10 Sexiest Men of '91.") And according to Fred Francis, a colleague at NBC, Kent is not keen on the prospect of a solo job. Said Francis: "He likes the bang-bang—being on the cutting edge of a story." If he takes Brokaw's job, he would join Canadians Robert Medill (PBS) and Peter Jennings (ABC) in the top anchor jobs in American broadcasting.

Kent: one of Playboy's "10 Sexiest Men of '91"



DAN COHEN/ABC

## Breaking the ice for profit

Newfoundland businessman Ronald Stamp has found a major use for the subzero that this year are sinking in extra cold to the short summer season. Next month, Stamp's company, Arctic Water, will launch a brand of bottled water called Labrador Ice—melted right from the icebergs that gather along the Labrador coast. Stamp developed the plan in February and, since then, he has hired a crew for a 300-foot cargo ship that will collect 25-ton pieces of icebergs. The ice will be crushed, melted, filtered, pasteurized and bottled. Stamp says that he already has orders for Canada Ice, marketed under the slogan "Canada's original iceberg water." It's as far away as the Middle East and Asia. He added, "People

in Newfoundland are saying that it's about time that someone did this with icebergs." Served on the spot.



DOUG WILSON/ABC

Stamp: bottling seawater iceberg

## STEPPING INTO THEIR SHOES

An increase in attacks against homosexuals has led police in Houston to undertake a novel undercover operation. Earlier this month, officers started walking downtown streets while posing as homosexual couples. Already, the theory proves has reached in 15 arrests. Houston's gay-rights leaders, long critics of the police, say that they are impressed. Declared David Rorier, a founder of the local chapter of Queer Nation, a militant homosexual organization: "I give the Houston police a lot of credit. Strange bedfellows, indeed."

## Revolutionary rush hours

Since its inauguration in 1990, each train on the Paris subway has included a single yellow car reserved for first-class passengers. For \$1.20 (regular fare is 92 cents), riders are usually guaranteed a seat, but little else in the way of luxury. Now, as the city celebrates its subway 100th anniversary, officials have announced the end of the elite service—in the shape of a phlegm slinger who risk a \$160 fine for not buying the right ticket. Said Marie-Claude Dorey, a former Paris resident who now lives in Montreal: "It has taken 200 years for the spirit of the revolution to reach beneath the surface of Paris." Equality at last.

## SENSATIONAL SOUVENIRS

Crowds continue to gather over the ruins of Camelot. But street vendors at Pilsen Beach, Fla., where Senator Edward Kennedy's nephew, William Kennedy Smith, is scheduled to go on trial next year for the alleged rape of a 17-year-old local woman, have found a silver lining by selling more particularly sensational souvenirs. Cautious vendors can buy "White Whistles," loud police whistles used in self-defense, or the Kennedy Boy, which is a mouse hat that, when opened, emits the sound of a man laughing sarcastically. There are even T-shirts bearing the message "Kennedy Campaign: taxpayers will be notified." Indeed, negative publicity surrounding the trial has become so intense that Jacqueline Chasson, the widow of President John F. Kennedy, recently asked her son, John F. Kennedy Jr., not to attend a family wedding at Philadelphia because he has political enemies and she did not want him to appear in family photographs with Smith. That is in sharp contrast to an earlier era when the media publicly ignored John F. Kennedy's White House sexual adventures, including his trysts with Marilyn Monroe. Indeed, their one brief strong moment finally appears to be over.



MICHAEL OCHS

Kennedy checks



MICHAEL OCHS

Smith: intense publicity

## THE GRASS IS NOT ALWAYS GREENER

It all goes well, Burnhamton, B.C., 32 km north of Victoria, will get an impressive boost during the next decade. Members of the South Island Development Co-operative, owned by four Canadian Indian unions, plan to use peatland bogs to transform a desolate industrial site into what it calls "an ecologically sustainable community." If approved, the new Burnhamton will have extensive recycling programs and concrete streets (paved with traditional asphalt) and even car-free trails (waterfall), and will promote so-called native vegetation instead of grass, which is sometimes watered with chemicals. Said David Butterfield, head of the co-operative: "Once you have built the roads, houses, ripped out the trees and put in lawns, what you have created is an ecological desert. We're trying to get away from that."



## Cancel the messenger

Lack of money has slowed a race from the past in Halifax. Organizers have decided to cancel the city's annual Snowmobile Competition, which for the past 12 years has drawn as many as 100 competitors from around the world. But in an era of expensive communications networks, apparently the banner race does not carry far enough for some. According to tourism director Lew Rogers, public reaction to the decision has been distinctly muted. Said Rogers: "It's not about money any more, it's about the event, so I am not sure we can say people will not come to the city because it was cancelled." But Peter Cox, who is well known as organizer of the annual competition, is also Halifax's official town crier, expressed considerable disappointment. Said Cox: "Once we lose the event, it will be very hard to get it back again." The median is getting the message.

Cost: loss of colorful competition

## A capital offence

The game was routine but the stakes were not. At the recent Canada Cup playoffs in Toronto, Los Angeles Kings star



Gretzky: dissuaging loss

Wayne Gretzky led a pickup team against one led by Detroit Red Wing Steve Yzerman. Gretzky promised that if he did not lead his team to victory, they would accept the consolation prize: a trip to Ottawa for an inter-quadrant exhibition game. It was a tie game, and his opponents were ecstatic. Their prize: they did not have to go to Ottawa. Town without pay.



Those far away vodkas  
with strange sounding names.



That Rocky Mountain water  
and Canadian Prairie Rye Grain.

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## ANOTHER VIEW



# The secret of a proper perspective

BY CHARLES GORDON

From this vantage point, high up on a ladder, one can see far down the lake and reflect on its beauty and how it has changed. Unfortunately, one has to be to the screen.

Not that screen is compelling. Fixing the screens is an honorable chore, well suited to those of certain temperament and possessing certain skills. Knowledge of the principles of construction is not among these, nor is any acquaintance with carpentry. All that is needed is patience, a firm grasp of the subject, and the ability to climb ladders.

Once up there, it is not necessary, aside from remembering not to fall off, to keep one's vital statistics on the task. The work is repetitive, fairly mechanical, and it is possible to find time for reflection. In it any difference being up here, the reflective person asks, then it was 20 years ago, or 40, or 60? And if it is different, is it better or worse? The advantage of fixing the screens—as opposed to, say, painting corporate law—is that fixing screens affords one the opportunity to reflect without the risk of missing a red light or following a judge.

Practicing corporate law, you don't have time to reflect on change because things are changing too fast. Fixing the screens, you can look down the lake, watch the boats, hear the birds, think about the birds.

The boats are always changing. For every person up a ladder now who wants something done about boats, there is another one 50 years ago who wanted the same thing. There is E. B. White, in 1954, reviewing the lake of his childhood summers (hence, the books one finds on a ladder).

"Power and goodness and pity. The only thing that was wrong now, really, was the sound of the place, an sinister nervous sound of the outdoor masts. This was the same that, until, the time that would sometimes break the silence and set the years moving."

Charles Gordon is confounded only by the Ottawa Citizen.

*The people who return to the lakes of this country take with them a sense of how things were—and a sense of how things should be*

The people who keep going back to the lakes of this country take with them a sense of how things were, and that sense becomes a sense of how things should be now. There are people who remember when the outdoors first came to this lake in the 1890s. "They will run this lake," it was said by those who had outdoors. Now, everyone has outdoors and some of the people with smaller and slower outdoors say that the lake will be ruined by the people with the faster and newer outdoors. You can see them all from up on the ladder.

There is a fishing derrick on the bank and the fishing boats, fast and powerful outdoors, dash back and forth across the lake. Change has come to fishing. Fishing derrick boats are so old, so well, fast, but the ones now have less to continue with fishing than with, say, stock-car racing. The derrick boats are full of corporate sponsors, and the boats and jockeys and baseball caps of the competitors are covered with brand names. At stake are more than trophies for biggest bass or most honest angler. Now, it is money and equipment. All stakeholders are the regulations of the boat and reel-and-tackle manufacturers, perhaps even—don't you know?—the chance at one's own TV fishing show every Saturday afternoon. The contra-

stasts near to one spot, turn on their electronic fish-finding clocks, fish like crazy, then move on to the next. There is no time to lose—a peculiar reason to apply to fishing, where time could always be lost without anyone noticing.

In fishing screens, you just get off the little decorative strips of wood covering their edges. There is a name for these strips of wood, but a fear of screens need not know it. They have been peeled off so many times that they come off in pieces. Eventually, it will be necessary to fit the pieces back together.

Change has come to the screen-fixing process, too. In fixing a particularly old one, the reflective person finds the screen held to the frame by little nails put in very close together. In removing them, the fast fisher with his barbed wire, reflecting, can always point out, on these shorelines, Scottsboro, the first repairs his own work and, in a neat trick of memory, links with himself, less likely now to feel lost with previous generations.

From the ladder, the tops of trees are easy to examine, and the tops of the houses are dead. This is alarming, except that there is time to reflect on theories of a tree cycle, the balsam rambling every 20 years, change coming to the forest, change occurring even where we thought change was unthinkable.

The modern method of affixing screens employs staples, shot from a staple gun. The fast fisher with his staple gun or screwdriver, scratching his head from time to time on the screen and acquiring a condition recognizable as "screen-fixer's knuckle." The philosophical question encountered along the way is whether those who must change—whether it be in the form of staples versus nails or canvas versus Jet Ski—have greater rights than those who foster it. A related question is whether speedboats have 20-year cycles.

Is everything changing for the worse? One should be able to see from the top of the ladder, but the view is an ache. Most from the outside world, picked up from the occasional newspaper, is not about politics, but about socialism and socialism, mass murder and the suffering of those substances. It is hard to get proper perspective. In these more times of our society or simply more in our newspapers? It is hard to see this from the ladder.

From the ladder overlooking the lake, it is possible to see things that have changed and things that have not. Some look and see how much has changed. Others look at the same things, the same buildings, the same people, and see how much has stayed the same. Some look at what has perished, others see what has endured. It is all quite clear when viewed from a ladder on the right kind of day. Mind you, it appears that the most recent layer of staples is more brittle, more likely to break into pieces than the layer put in by the generation before. Could staples be changing for the worse, too?

Only a dedicated person could be moved to that conclusion. The task now is to bang those staples in, keeping the above laws and trying to do a nice, clean and not too thorough job in order to be considered with affection and respect by the most reflective screen-fixer, who could well be oneself.

# SOLIDARITY IN BLUE



Mulroney with wife and daughter Caroline (right). 34 cents, six people—and two of 'em selling hotdogs'

**A** man whose pragmatic Conservatism since 1985, Jack Dubois, a business consultant from Edmonton, long ago became accustomed to the shifting winds of political popularity. But he, an obvious high point: even in 1984 when, he said, the "strong leadership" of party leader Brian Mulroney carried the Tories to a crushing electoral victory. But as the 60-year-old Dubois arrived in Toronto last week for the Tories' biennial national convention, he admitted to harboring new doubts about the Prime Minister. He declared, "Times are different, and [Mulroney] needs to show him gifts—and a willingness to listen." But by the convention's close last weekend, Dubois said that he had

## DEMONSTRATIONS AND AN MP'S WALKOUT FAIL TO DISRUPT A FIVE-DAY DISPLAY OF TORY UNITY

regained much of his confidence in his leader. The reason, he said, was Mulroney's response to both of his wishes during the convention: "Not everybody is happy," acknowledged Dubois. "But Canadians were wondering if the party is still behind Mulroney—or we showed them we are."

For a relaxed and occasionally rocky Mulroney, who spent hours listening to the Toronto Convention Centre to meet groups of grassroots Tory delegates, that reaction was a measure of the success of his efforts. And after five days of meetings disrupted once by pro-socialist demonstrators and once by the daily anti-government demonstrations outside, most Tories seemed to share Dubois's positive assessment

of their accomplishments. The party succeeded in averting splits over two contentious issues: Mulroney's widespread popularity, and the deeply constitutional divisions between many Quebec Tories and party members from the rest of Canada. Only one unexpected event marred the appearance of solidarity. On the second-last day of the meeting, Montreal-area MP Perreault Vézina left from the Conservative party, declaring he was fed up with delegates' refusal to discuss the details of a re-formed federation.

At the same time, the constitutional debate helped to discuss a significant shift to the ideological right in several party policies. The 2,500 delegates—praised at times by the party's astoundingly conservative youth wing—voted in favour of such measures as privatizing the CBC, maintaining capital punishment for premeditated murder, ending universality of social programs and charging new fees for welfare costs. But senior Conservatives emphasized that the government is not obliged to follow any party recommendations. And Conservative Minister Pierre Dineen, who is responsible for the CBC, declared flatly that he has "no intention" of selling it to private interests.

But the most serious discussion concerned the debate over a resolution from Quebec's Terrebonne and Louise-Bellert ridings calling for recognition of "the right of Quebec men and women to self-determination." The resolution became a touchstone both for separatist Quebec Tories and for factors of the party's English-speaking mem-

bers, who opposed it because it could be construed as a thinly veiled endorsement of Quebec independence. Said Newfoundland MP Ross Reid before the vote: "We have to explain to people that the issue is not supporting sovereignty—but that change is not always getting through." Still, supporters and opponents of the resolution alike concurred that the resolution's inclusion in the party's platform was important—particularly in Quebec—than its exact wording. At the end of the week, Torontoan Minister Jean Charest declared that "no matter, I think most people agree with the motion."

As a result, a group of about 25 rising politicians met on the day before the vote to find more acceptable wording, and then spent the next 24 hours convincing their delegates to support it. When the reprinted resolution

passed with the backing of 90 per cent of the delegates, the euphoria of having achieved a symbolic agreement was palpable in the convention hall.

None disputed that election night webber Willett. Her departure was triggered by the delegates' refusal to discuss three detailed motions on constitutional reform presented by her. Still, Willett's riding. One would have reshaped Canada's 10 provinces into five regions. Vézina charged that the Tories were refusing to discuss "fundamental" reforms but she found little sympathy among her Quebec colleagues. Said a derisive Health Minister Benoit Boivin: "He is not resigning because [Vézina] doesn't want to disappear today."

The Tory delegates' generally conciliatory mood towards one another was in vivid contrast to the open hostility that some of them exhibited towards the groups of demonstrators who camped and rallied outside their meeting place. At one point midway through the convention, police had to intervene to end a scuffle between some Tory delegates and a group of construction workers protesting against economic policies that they said have crippled their industry. Some protesters denounced Mulroney as "Lynx" and several delegates confronted with shouts of "Concensus" and "Get a job." Mulroney himself showed little sympathy for other protesters who set up a group of tents outside the convention site that they called "Mulroneyville." With a remark that even some Tories privately termed insensitive, the Prime Minister told party delegates that the protesters were composed of "24 cents, six people—and two of 'em selling hotdogs'."

But for the most part, some Tories were clearly delighted with Mulroney's overall performance. His opening speech, in which he gave a passionate appeal for both party and national unity, with little praise for its content and delivery. The speech struck several chords that are certain to be central to the party's campaign in the next election, expected in 1988. Among them: the assertion that Mulroney's present popularity is a result of his tough economic decisions, which will eventually bring greater prosperity across the country—and rescue the Tories' political hopes.

Despite their hot standing in the polls, the Tories may have little reason for optimism. Although the party's support has been climbing below 20 per cent since August, 1986, an Angus Reid Group poll released last week found that 46 per cent of respondents would consider voting Tory again if Mulroney leads the country into "a period of strong economic growth." The new survey has been issued below 20 per cent of respondents and that they might change their minds in favour of the Tories if the party finds "a solution to Canada's national unity problem." For Mulroney and other party leaders, that is a clear reminder that, more than ever, their political future is tied to the well-being of the country they govern.

ANTHONY WALSH SMITH  
and BRUCE WALLACE in Toronto

## National Notes

### A LOOKPOLE FOR BUSHMAN

Nova Scotia's conflict-of-interest commissioner ruled that former premier John Buchanan, now a senator, accept a job offer for fighting in Asia for \$250,000 in severance pay. The ruling was issued by the party by resigning his seat before they were discovered. Noted Justice A. M. Macdonald. "Any present member of the legislature in the same situation as Senator Buchanan was, would be in violation of the statute." But he said the province could not be on conflict of interest does not cover MPs after they resign.

### A LOOKING MAIL STRIKE

Labour Minister Marcel Duceau said that he would intervene in order to try to end a strike by 45,000 Canada Post employees as early as next week. Wages and job security are the main issues dividing the Crown corporation from its mail handlers.

### SHARP SADDAM

More than 200 Canadians in a third compensation claims against Iraq for property loss and personal suffering during the Persian Gulf War. External affairs department spokesman Rodney Moore said that several dozen corporations and more than 100 individuals have filed claims totaling more than \$300 million. For loss of shares, property, equipment, personal injury—whatever Canadians could have lost due to the Iraq action. He said that the federal government would present the claims to the United Nations.

### PUNISHMENT TO FIT THE CRIMES

Two Christian Brothers convicted of sex crimes against residents of the Mount Cashel orphanage in St. John's, Nfld., received widely differing sentences. On Aug. 5, Newfoundland Supreme Court Justice Gerald Laing sentenced Edward English to 12 years in prison on 13 counts of physical and sexually abusing boys at the orphanage. Laing called English a "monster who does not deserve to be called a Christian." The next day, Justice Laing sentenced Edward French to one year in jail for fondling those boys at the orphanage.

### THE FIRST OF SUMMER

A beachfront hotel erupted between Canadian and Mexican travellers competing at the Pan-American Games in Havana after Canadian catcher Alex Avdeyenko exchanged snafus with Mexican batter Alberto Vazquez. The fight left Avdeyenko injured coach John Upton in hospital with a concussion. In the end, Officials awarded Mexico the game on points.



# Putting rage to work

Nova Scotia's blacks mobilize against racism

**L**ed by a band belting out *Where the Streets Go March* the 1980s civil-rights marches held in the southern United States "Hey, hey, ho, ho, KKKKK has got to go" sounded a raucous crowd of more than 1,000 as it walked through the streets of downtown Halifax at Aug. 1. The march was a direct response to a riot involving blacks and whites on those same downtown streets last month. That outbreak of violence left 15 peo-

ple dead, eight stricken to ensure that their dream of lasting social change in the province does not evaporate.

For Nova Scotia's 30,000 blacks, many of whom trace their family histories in the region back to the American Revolution, the potential for progress has seldom looked brighter. At the same time, recent events have underscored the urgent need for change. A string of violent incidents with racial overtones has focused attention on the simmering frustrations within

three anger in the early hours of July 10. What began as a routine setting of accounts between two tavern bouncers, one white and the other black, exploded into a full-fledged riot when 150 people—mostly blacks—poured downtown, smashing store windows and randomly attacking white passers-by. The following night, despite a hefted-up police presence on Halifax streets, a plane-landing scuffle between three blacks and three whites in a suburban area five kilometers from the center disturbance left one black man in hospital with a stab wound. And a day later, black youths beat two white people in the city's heavily black north end.

Elsewhere in the province, race-tinged violence has flared up in smaller centres as well. On July 27, a confrontation between a number of white men and black youths outside a pizza parlor in the Annapolis Valley turned into a

long-standing neighborhood feud. Police who broke up the brawl later charged 13 people and could not arrest several others. Local Black community leaders emphasize that they do not condone the violence. Still, they say that they understand the fury and frustration that the young people feel. Declared Yvonne Thomas Brown, a representative of the Afro-Canadian Council of Nova Scotia, "These young adults reflect rage which has been simmering for generations."

Many blacks say that conditions are almost as bad as they were when their ancestors arrived after the American Revolution. At that time British colonial authorities distributed land to newly freed black slaves who arrived with other Loyalist refugees from the United States. But the land assigned to blacks was the least desirable—rocky hills and swampland whose farming was hardly profitable. And many of the 30 predominantly black communities in the province remain among Nova Scotia's poorest. In some remote rural villages, unemployment approaches 80 per cent.

Blacks claim that they remain badly served by government. Community leaders have long complained that blacks are underrepresented in government workplaces, in particular in the education system, police forces and fire departments. And indeed, the provincial human rights commission recently ruled that Halifax Metro Transit—the city's bus service—had discriminated against a black applicant in refusing to employ him. The commission awarded the victim \$47,000 in compensation. At the same time, black representatives assert that police and the legal system have also routinely discriminated against blacks. A 1989 report commissioned upon dealing with the wrongful murder conviction and 15-year imprisonment of Cape Breton Marine Donald Marshall documented widespread discrimination against both Indians and blacks within the Nova Scotia justice system. Declared that report, "From their initial involvement as slaves in Nova Scotia, the black population has been obstructed from sharing fully in Nova Scotia's society." The commission recommended that the province amend its Human Rights Act to provide faster treatment.

Black community leaders, however, say that subtle forms of racism are almost impossible to eliminate by legislation. In one case last winter, a black minority contractor laid a complaint before the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission to stop a Halifax firm's sales from selling

Kentville, 80 km northwest of Halifax, left one white man, 27-year-old Warren Frederick Bond, in critical condition in hospital. Police charged two 17-year-old black youths—whose identities could not be revealed under the Young Offenders Act—with aggravated assault in connection with the baseball-bat swinging brawl. Earlier in the same Saturday evening, dozens of black and white youths clashed in downtown Sydney, a gritty industrial centre on the western tip of Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island, apparently as the result of a

racially motivated fight. In the actual tactics of the 1980s civil-rights movement in the United States to fight discrimination and segregation in 1960s Atlanta Canada said Gray, as American citizens who were active in the civil-rights movement before moving to Nova Scotia, his mother's husband last year. "We have to go to the streets as well as in the courts."

That appeal seems to be attractive to young



Gray: 'a window of opportunity to make real gains'

ger blacks. Young activists are playing a central role in the neo-nazis war. In fact, the Cultural Awareness Youth Group of Nova Scotia, which is made up mainly of young blacks, was the driving force behind the Aug. 1 march. Halifax activists, the race group asserted through the city's downtown to protest against bars that have policies designed to deny blacks entrance. Added Tracy Jones, 20, a black heavy metal band: "Young people suffer the most from racism. Our concerns have been ignored for too long."

But other, more established members of the black community say that militancy may not be the most effective way to achieve change. Members-in-chief of 11 Nova Scotia black groups strongly criticized the Halifax march, arguing that it might lead to more violent racial confrontations. Said God Wright, a vice-president of the Black United Front: "We can achieve more just by sitting down and forcing government to listen to what we want."

Clearly, government is now prepared to

listen. Even before the recent outbreaks of violence, Nova Scotia's Conservative premier, Donald Cameron—whose government has a precarious one-seat majority in the legislature—had already pledged to take action. Cameron said that the government would redraw provincial electoral boundaries around the province, a change that would give black voters a clear vote in the province's election of the province's first black M.L.A. And leaders of all three provincial political parties are pressing Gray and other prominent blacks to run under their banners in the new riding.

Other actions designed to reduce tensions are pending. Two weeks ago, eight black representatives posed officials from all three levels of government to form a working group that by Sept. 1 will recommend a plan to end discrimination against blacks in Nova Scotia generally and Halifax in particular. Said Halifax Mayor Russell Walker: "There is an honest commitment to achieve change in this city."

In fact, several Halifax-area municipalities have already taken steps directed at increasing opportunities for blacks. In Dartmouth, across Halifax harbor from the provincial capital, Myron Laiter, who served as a director to a program to assist black businesses in winning city contracts, has been under way for the past four years. Since 1986, he added, the program has directed \$1.2 million to black companies in Halifax. County Warden Lando Laiter, who admitted the unemployment rate among blacks is hovering around 100 per cent, said that the county launched a similar program earlier this year. And in Halifax, Mayor Walker said that the city has recently revised its job application forms in an effort to identify qualified black candidates. As a result, he added, the city's first two black firefighters are nearing the end of training before joining the Halifax Fire Department.

Some black blacks demand those undertakings as useless, saying that under-employment and progress have failed in the past. Others say that community and provincial leaders have finally made a long-overdue breakthrough. But they insist that more must be forthcoming. Said Gray: "On Sept. 1, there has got to be something on the table." Otherwise, even parties like himself, which are still summing black rage could take on even more tragic dimensions.

JOHN DUMONT in Halifax



Anti-racism march in Halifax: a string of violent incidents has focused attention on simmering frustrations

gle spread and right away under arrest. But many Nova Scotia blacks have had the response to the violent clash—and to the ensuing peaceful parade, which was joined by about as many whites as blacks—as the first indication of a new breakthrough in their two-centuries-old struggle against racism. Declared march organizer Barry Gray, a black Baptist minister: "Finally, we have a window of opportunity to make real gains." Indeed, last week Gray and other black leaders vowed to use further demonstrations, boycotts and other tools of the

the community. Federal, provincial and municipal governments have responded by pledging concrete steps to reduce discrimination. But those undertakings may not satisfy some of the province's blacks. Indeed, the community itself is divided over what course offers the best chance of achieving change. Said Owen Christie, executive director of the Halifax-based Black United Front: "Our younger generation is simply out walking in back and better more haste."

Halifax blacks gave a vivid demonstration of



# BACK FROM BEIRUT

On the morning of April 17, 1986, British television producer Nick Tinkling took a phone call from Beirut. It was his friend and colleague John McCarthy, calling to say that he was about to leave for Beirut airport to board a flight to London and would arrive. Tinkling, that morning in their favorite pub. As it turned out, Tinkling and McCarthy would have to wait more than five years for their drink. Islamic extremists seized McCarthy on the road to the airport and held him captive for 1,943 days, often blindfolded and sometimes beaten. But when the kidnappers finally freed him last week, McCarthy appeared to have kept both his health and his sense of humor. "Well, hello," he said with strong understatement as he faced journalists in Damascus before flying home to a rapturous welcome in Britain. "It's great to be here after five years."

McCarthy's release eased hopes that at least one more Westerner held prisoner in Beirut might soon be set free—and that a wider deal to free all hostages in Lebanon might be in the making. McCarthy, 34, came with him a letter from his kidnappers, the fundamentalist Muslim group Islamic Jihad, to US Secretary General James Baker and to C. Cullinan. In it, McCarthy said the group was seeking Cullinan's help in arranging an exchange of the remaining 11 Western hostages in Beirut as ransoms for hundreds of Palestinian and Shiite Muslims held prisoner by Israel and as Lebanese. But hope of a swift solution to the hostage crisis quickly cooled when another Westerner, 30-year-old French medical worker Jeanne Leynard, was kidnapped in Beirut just a few hours after McCarthy's release. A group calling itself the Organization for Freeing Prisoners and Hostages' Rights said that it would kill Leynard if any more Westerners were freed.

That complicated what would already be an extremely difficult task for Pierre de Cullinan, organizing a deal involving the Lebanese kidnapping groups, their Iranian sponsors, Syria and Israel. In such efforts, immediately stressed that they would not free their nearly 400 Lebanese prisoners unless Israeli soldiers imprisoned in Lebanon

## THE RELEASE OF JOHN MCCARTHY RAISES HOPES OF AN END TO THE HOSTAGE DRAMA IN LEBANON

were also released—and the leaders of Israeli soldiers returned. But Western leaders made clear that they now expect Israel to negotiate and to ensure that the new opening for an overall solution to the hostage crisis was not wasted. And in New York City, Pierre de Cullinan said, "We have to consider that this is the beginning of a process leading to the release of all hostages"—including those held by Israel.

Behind, another Lebanese group holding two Americans, Edward Tamm and Joseph Cooper, and Stanley that it would release one of them within 72 hours. A photograph of Cooper, 66, accompanied the announcement by the shadow Revolutionary Justice Organization. Still, those conflicting messages sharply affected the outlook of joy in Britain that greeted the release of McCarthy in Damascus. About 30 of his friends and former colleagues at Yorkshire Television News (YTV), the British TV agency that sent him to Beirut in 1986, had come prepared to ensure that he was not forgotten. Led by his first and closest companion, 30-year-old Jill Murrell, they lobbied the British government to work harder for the release of all of the Western hostages and sponsored newspaper and billboard ads to keep his name before the public. Just days before his release, they had erected new billboards showing hundreds of days counted off, as in a prison wall, with the slogan "John McCarthy still counts." They quickly changed the slogan to "John

McCarthy still counts."

In London, hundreds of people gathered St. Brigid's Church on Fleet Street, traditionally known as the "journalists' church," to give thanks for his freedom. A candle-crowned altar in one corner had been dedicated to keeping McCarthy's memory alive. Early on Thursday morning, before his release was announced, a young church worker changed the label on it that recorded the number of days he had spent in captivity to 1,943. Within an hour, it was changed again to read simply "Released."

McCarthy was just 29 when YTV sent him for what was supposed to be a five-week assignment as Beirut as acting bureau chief at the spring of 1969. It was his first foreign posting, but it turned dangerous when American warplanes attacked Lebanon on April 18, 1986, in retaliation for Lebanese-sponsored terrorism. Islamic extremists in Lebanon hit back by murdering several Westerners and threatening others. YTV ordered McCarthy home—but on his way to the airport, four gunmen blocked his car and dragged him away. It was four years before another hostage, American Frank Reid, was released and gave the first detailed evidence that McCarthy was still alive somewhere in north Beirut.

McCarthy spoke only briefly last week about the conditions of his captivity. He told a Syrian TV interviewer that his first two years in a hostage were "very difficult," but that conditions had gradually improved. Other former hostages who were held with him have said that all the prisoners suffered brutally and deprivations. Brian Kersna, an Irish teacher freed last August after more than four years, described how he, McCarthy and others were held in dark

cells for weeks at a time, beaten, often blindfolded and transported to new cells while still in what they called "the coffee"—a metal box strapped under a truck, with their heads and chests bound tightly with tape. But early in 1986, Kersna said, their treatment improved: they were no longer beaten, were given better food and could even watch television for an hour each evening.

McCarthy was held with three other Westerners, and last week he gave the clearest evidence so far that they are alive and well.

the report. "It's a great burden lifted from my mind," he said.

For the families of other hostages, McCarthy's release was both encouraging and troubling, setting off yet another round of speculation over who might be freed next. "I've been through it so many times before," said Virginia Stern, wife of American Adam Stern, who was kidnapped on Jan. 24, 1987, along with James Turner, a fellow professor at Beirut University College. Adam Stern's "It's incredibly it just goes on and on." So, Stern said Adam



McCarthy (center) with father Patrick and brother Andrew: desperation

Two of the three men are Americans. Terry Anderson, a journalist with The Associated Press, imprisoned since March 16, 1985, and Thomas Sutherland, a former professor at the American University of Beirut who was kidnapped on Jan. 9, 1985. The third hostage is British. Terry Wain, the Church of England's special envoy who disappeared on Jan. 20, 1983, during a mission to free other hostages. "When I left two days ago," McCarthy said in Damascus, "they were in good health and in good spirits." At her home in Cádiz, Ky., Anderson's sister Peggy Seymored told us

John's, she was glad to hear McCarthy's statement that other hostages are being treated well. "Just the knowledge that he is still alive and waiting for us helps," she said. "That's the best news." Nicole Remington, James Turner's mother, acknowledged that seeing other hostages freed while her son remains imprisoned is very difficult. "It's very devastating for us, but we're always happy for the family that got a hostage home," she said. "It just seems like a roller coaster—but we have to keep it as calm a roller coaster as we can."

And that joy at McCarthy's release, his

## World Notes

### FURDS UNDER ATTACK

Turkish soldiers and pilots carried out cross-border raids against rebel Turkish Kurds based in northern Iraq. The U.S.-led allies, who set up security patrols in the region to protect Iraqi Kurds from attacks by the Iraqi army after the Persian Gulf War ended in February, used to public allegations by the Turkish military action. Fighting between the Ankara government and the outlawed pro-Kurdish Kurdistan Workers Party has killed more than 2,500 people since 1984.

### CONTROVERSY AT SEA

Survivors from the Greek cruise liner Oceanos, which sank in heavy seas off the coast of South Africa on Aug. 4, accused Capt. Yannis Avranos and his crew of abandoning ship long before all passengers—many of them elderly—had escaped. About 400 of the 571 passengers and crew members boarded lifboats before South African rescuers evacuated the rest in helicopters and ships. Ergasilos Lines, the Greek company that owned the Oceanos, has lost two other vessels in the past three years.

### CHANGING LEADERS

Under pressure from reformers, hard-liner Leon Poldosky resigned as first secretary of the Russian republic's 13-million-member Communist party. His successor, Viktor avakov, said that his primary aim was to unite the party in the Soviet Union's largest republic and stop an erosion of discipline.

### MURKERS IN PARIS

In the Paris suburb of Suresnes, police found the bodies of former Iranian premier Shapour Bakhtiar and his personal secretary, Khashem Padooh, both stabbed to death. Bakhtiar, 36, who had been living in exile in France since Iran's Islamic revolution in 1979, had escaped an attempt on his life 11 years ago by a member of the pro-Islamic Mujahideen (Party of God). Paris police are searching for three Iranian suspects in the killings.

### A DESPERATE VOYAGE

Thousands of impoverished Albanian refugees sailed to southern Italy and Malta in hopes of asylum. A freighter with an estimated 10,000 Albanians aboard forced its way into Italy's Bari harbor before any ships could off the coast. But the boat sank in Italian waters, began dumping the latest arrivals. Last March, 34,000 Albanians sailed to the Italian port of Brindisi aboard ships and makeshift rafts, but only 1,250 received political asylum.

### Ciccioppa announcement



friends and former colleagues expressed surprise at how well he appeared to have endured his ordeal. Before he was freed, friends had no inkling that they were worried that he might be deeply changed by the isolation and brutality he had experienced. But McCarthy appeared composed and lucid, joking with the Royal Air Force crew that they had been taken to an airbase 150 km west of London. He seemed to follow only once during his appearance in Damascus, when he spoke of the men with whom he had been imprisoned and passed as if it was routine. "John is a very tough very resilient," said Kresna. "I think he'll do very well."

Still, McCarthy faces a long process of readjusting to the demands of daily life—and to some sad news. He had apparently not known that his mother, Sheila, died at the age of 66 in July, 1989. Stricken with cancer, she had appealed to the kidnappers for her son's release. "I urge you in the name of mercy for which I believe I know to fulfil the wishes of a dying woman who wants to see her son before she dies," said her plea, which was published in Beirut newspapers. As it happened, McCarthy was finally released on what would have been his mother's 69th birthday.

He must also adapt to the expectations of those who were close to him before he disappeared. When he used to leave, he and Merrill had been a couple for three years and were



Arab prisoners in southern Lebanon: a process leading to the release of all hostages

discussing buying an apartment together. She spearheaded the campaign to free him, but in 1989 announced that she no longer wanted to be known as his girlfriend—was, in fact, with no way of knowing when McCarthy might be freed, or even whether he was still alive, Merrill said that "It was the only way I could cope—I had to do it to save my own life." She was one of the first people to see McCarthy when he returned to England, but the instantly launched off a question about whether they would be a couple again. "It's an impossible question," Merrill said. "The important thing is he is released and his life can start again."

McCarthy will attempt to pick up the threads of his life after he has completed medical and psychiatric tests. His roommate kept his room exactly as he had left it. He kept his old job for him, with a desk set aside and his name still turned on weekly work assignment sheets posted on the office with the notation "Away." And he has at least one pleasant surprise awaiting him: his pay has salary since he was kidnapped as if he were on a foreign assignment. With accumulated interest, it amounts to about \$300,000.

ANDREW PHILLIPS in London with  
JULY MACKENZIE in Washington

## THE PRICE OF FREEDOM

The release of Prisoner John McCarthy last week aroused little controversy of political interest in the Lebanese crisis or, in fact, the hostage-takers' original objective, a rising under mounting economic problems. And President Ali Haddad's Republican chief won't Washington to drop its trade embargo against him. At the same time, Syria, which has increased its influence over the hostage-takers since its soldiers overran Lebanon last fall, can no longer count on the Israeli and military support of the economically beleaguered Assad. As a result, President Haddad has warned to the United States, which, fresh from its Persian Gulf victory, has emerged as the unaccounted military power in the Middle East. For both Lebanon and Assad, securing a hostage's

freedom has proved to be a cost-effective way to carry favor with the West. Said Shereef Haddad, an analyst at Washington's Center for Strategic and International Studies: "A lot of things are being changed."

Wishing the release of the 11 other Westerners held captive in Lebanon, however, may prove more complicated. Israeli hard-liners in law have fiercely criticized Haddad for allowing him to work with the West, and they may be seeking to undermine his efforts to free the hostages. Leading evidence to that theory was the kidnapping of French medical worker Jeanne Leyraud last week. Said Haddad: "As the Assad regime gathers strength, the rebels are becoming more and more desperate—the kidnapping of the French person is a bad sign."

The Americans, meanwhile, have made serious efforts to improve ties with Syria. Secretary of State James Baker held a domestic opposition when he met Assad in September to seek his support on the Gulf crisis. A month later, Washington moved on to Syria's virtual takeover of Lebanon. But the Ameri-

cans are acting cautiously: they remain sensitive to any appearance of dealing with hostage-takers, a legacy of the 1985 Iran arms-for-hostages scandal.

Still, U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that Britain is pressuring Israel to free some of its Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners. And one official said: "we are not discouraging the British initiative. The hostage-takers have demanded that Israel release its prisoners as a condition for freeing ours. That theory was And Israeli officials said last week that they are willing to release nearly 400 Lebanese if the exchange includes seven Israeli prisoners released in Lebanon since 1982. The Israeli side shaping the Middle East could produce the breakthrough that the captured families have been waiting for. But in the hushed and unpredictable region, they could also be another cage

NARY HENRICH in  
WILLIAM LOWMYER in Washington

## YUGOSLAVIA

# Families at war

## Serbs and Croats revive a tragic blood feud

Mirjana Vignović stood beside the heavily fortified sandbag bunker blocking the road to her Croatian village, wondering aloud if murdering Serbian guerrillas would attack and if she might be forced to shoot her ex-husband. Four years ago, Mirjana said, she and Zeljko Vignović, a Serb, were newly married and deeply in love.

Then, in 1988, armed ethnic Serbs that had begun to divide families and tear at the Yugoslav federation, their marriage collapsed. Now, Mirjana and her Croatian comrades, armed with Red Flag automatic weapons, are defending the dusty village behind them. Zeljko Vignović has joined Serbian forces roaming the nearby Croatian countryside. And if the father of her baby is part of an assault on her hometown, said 36-year-old Mirjana Vignović, she will not hesitate to shoot him. Disputing no version, she added: "It is better that I shoot him than that he shoots me."

With that, she reflected the depth of long-simmering ethnic hostility that turned to bloodshed after the republics of Slovenia and Croatia broke with the Yugoslav central government on June 25 and declared their independence. Croatia's 4.6 million inhabitants (600,000 Serbs) who oppose Croatian independence and have set up their own autonomous regions. By last week, patched battalions, folk militias and paramilitaries had

chained an estimated 300 buses, left thousands homeless and wrecked the Yugoslav economy. And although the two sides agreed to a ceasefire as European Community peacekeepers searched for a peace treaty, authorities said that they were skeptical that the truce would hold. And on Thursday night, speaking anonymously, "The best we can hope for is a short pause before the fighting begins again."

For Mirjana Vignović and tens of thousands of other Croats and Serbs engulfed and beleaguered by the renewal of an age-old blood feud, the fighting has not really stopped since June. Vignović and her Croatian neighbors believe as

though an attack were imminent. They crouch behind the barbed wire, the minutes of their automatic weapons peeling through part of the village. Vignović, wearing combat fatigues, scanned the road in the direction from which the Serbs might come and nodded in satisfaction. The road is strewn with obstacles—logs, piles of scrap metal and abandoned trucks.



A Croatian refugee lands in the port city of Rijeka: the crisis has left thousands homeless

Most of the inhabitants have long since fled from the village because, situated on the edge of the Serb-Slovenian region of Rijeka in western Croatia, it is a likely target.

As she watched the road, Vignović explained to a Serbian that Serbs and Croats once were friends in the Yugoslav of Josip Broz Tito, the Second World War Communist resistance leader who united six fractious republics into a nation and served as its president until his death 11 years ago. "Our parents still remembered the war and how the Serbs massacred thousands of Croats," she said, "but to us it was ancient history." She says that the met

Zeljko Vignović soon after she left school. "It was love at first sight, if you believe in that," she said. She smiled faintly and leashed her blood far away from her eyes. "He was handsome. We had the same ideas about life. I thought, yes, this is it."

But the dream and the love were short-lived. The Vignovićs crossed it with her parents caught up in the violence of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. "They never called me by my name, I was just 'she' and treated me as an unwanted cat that had hung around," Vignović said. "They kept having conversations about Croat assassins of Serbs during the war, all as if I was a piece of furniture with no feelings. They hated me and I grew to hate them." After two years, she moved out and went to live with her mother. Her husband followed, but the reconciliation did not work.

and he left just two months. A few weeks later, she discovered that she was pregnant. Now, her mother cares for her 12-month-old son, and Mirjana Vignović, holding no marriage, awaits Serbese attackers who may include her son's father.

She may not have long to wait. Serbs still roam from burning buildings in neighboring Glina. The village was overwhelmed by waves of the well-equipped, 12,000-man relief army organized along Croatia's Serbs has recently and treated by a beautiful soldier of Bosnia who calls himself Capt. Dragan. A native-born Serb whose real name is believed to be Dusan Pivov,



ITS TOUCH OF CITRUS MAKES IT SMOOTH



SEAGRAM'S GIN

## WORLD

Slayer-and Dragon is constantly on the move among the 15 camps from which his forces launch their attacks. He wears full combat uniform and designer sunglasses, and carries an Israeli-made Uzi submachine-gun. The Serbian junta has already cloaked him in a mythology that he enhances by refusing to talk about his past, although he poses for photographs holding a Croatian shield and his black swagger stick. According to press reports, Dragica was raised in Australia—he speaks English with an Australian accent—and fought in Africa, Afghanistan and the Falkland Islands. Some claim that he once had fun with the Mossad, the Israeli intelligence service.

Although Dragica evades questions about his background and how he became a central figure in Yugoslavia's civil struggle, he talks extensively about his past exploits. In an interview with *McGraw* in a Kosovo hillside, he insisted that he has captured several towns without losing a single man in his campaign to "make the Croatian politicians capitulate" by interceding nearly one-third of their land to the Serbian rebels. Dragica's original stronghold was the Serb-dominated Kosovo town of Kopa, and he obviously relishes having newspapers print his "Radio from Kopa." It was perhaps inevitable that his own would become known as the "Kopa" Serbian leader Mileković, says Dragica, is an inspiration for his troops. But Dragica turned aside questions about how much assistance he is receiving from Serbia itself. However, he added that elements of the Yugoslav federal army and "some people from the Serbian government" were providing help.

Still, the measure of this war, like all others, lies not in the possession of commanders but in the plight of civilians caught in the middle. Already, the Croats have been driven from nearly half the lands in which Serbs were the majority. But thousands of Serbs are leaving Croatian-controlled cities, including Koprivica, 50 km northwest of the Croatian capital of Zagreb. Last week, anti-tank grenades that were fired from passing cars destroyed two restaurants in Koprivica, and three patrolling policemen were shot to death.

The converging of recent antagonisms that has driven Yugoslavs to begin killing one another is also involving thousands of foreigners who have not picked up a gun. One Belgrode couple—he is Serbian and she is Croatian—talked to *McGraw* two conditions that only their first names be used. Zoran, the 30-year-old husband, and that he avoids taking his wife, Stojanica, to the homes of Serbian friends. "Everyone behaves violently when she is around," said Zoran. "Our two sons come home from school talking all sorts of Serbian nationalist shit's pressure, and yes, of course, it's having an effect on our marriage." Seven weeks of fierce ethnic struggle have destroyed scores of lives and communities. But it is the unimaginable hatred behind the violence that may destroy the nation.

**RAI CORRELLI** and **LOUISE BRANSON** in Belgrade and commentators' reports



Toronto branch of the Bank of Credit and Commerce Canada; a \$447,450 letter of credit raises questions

## PAKISTAN

# A cloud of suspicion

Did BCCI bankroll an Islamic Bomb?

**A**n immigration control booth at Frankfurt's bustling airport, an officer was running a routine check on the passport that a Pakistani businessman had just needed him when his member's wearying alert. And after months of intelligence tracking around the world, the German border police moved in swiftly to end a four-year international manhunt. With the arrest of 40-year-old and his 60-year-old son in May on July 12, Washington's justice department promptly launched extradition proceedings against a figure whose Philadelphia prosecutor Arny Karland called a "moving force" behind Pakistan's attempts to procure nuclear-grade American materials for its clandestine efforts to build an atomic bomb. Not only may he shed crucial light on the shadowy global networks by which a growing list of Third World countries have secretly acquired nuclear weapons, but an updated indictment against him is a Philadelphia Federal Court last week has also raised new questions about whether the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), charged with a massive \$23-billion fraud in New York City last month, played a key role in building a so-called Islamic bomb.

According to court documents obtained by *McGraw*'s staff and ABC News, the Canadian head office of BCCI at the corner of Toronto's King and Yonge streets issued a \$447,450 letter of credit to a suburban Milwaukee businessman, Pakistan-born Anwar Pervez, who was arrested in December, 1987, by a Philadelphia court of conspiracy with intent to export restricted materials to Karachi for nuclear use. Last week, Ohio Senator John Glenn asked justice officials to investigate whether the bank and its Persian Gulf shareholders may have helped finance Pakistan's atomic arms race. Said Glenn: "For years, there has been speculation that the Pakistan program was being bankrolled by persons in the Middle East."

Islam's secret comes amid renewed fears about the perils of A-100 technology leaking to the hands of possible Third World nuclear states. Only a month ago, President George Bush threatened to launch another U.S. bombing strike against Iraq after its repeated attempts to conceal technology for nuclear enrichment, required for nuclear weapons, from United Nations inspectors. Said Jacqueline Smith, assistant director of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Project at Washington's Carnegie Endowment: "It was showed people what is important now this is—how scary."

The case also highlights recent intelligence reports that Pakistan has stepped up its nuclear program in the wake of a sharp setback in U.S. aid last October—a setback that was parali-

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caly triggered by signs of renewed bomb-building activity. At the time, Bush failed to respond to a congressional amendment that required that, before Pakistan received its aid package, the President would have to certify that the country was not creating nuclear weapons. For most of the past decade, Bush's predecessor, Ronald Reagan, had overridden that congressional requirement in order to supply a nation through which the CIA was funneling assistance to rebels fighting Soviet troops in Afghanistan. But since the Soviet withdrawal in 1989, Pakistan has been shunned to discover that the Americans no longer consider them key strategic allies.

Pakistan began its quest for an Islamic Bomb after its 1982, arch-enemy, India, exploded a so-called peaceful nuclear device in 1974. At the time, two-Power Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto vowed that his poverty-stricken citizens would "eat grass," if necessary, in order to acquire their own atomic bomb.

Since then, intelligence reports circulate how a vast network of Pakistani expatriates has worked around the world, filling a shipping list of raw materials and atomic technology that, piece by piece, has enabled the country to produce weapons-grade uranium at a heavily guarded plant at Kahuta, near Islamabad. Preceding even Kahuta is a exclusive Pakistani intelligence agent Abdul Qader Khan, who has been hailed as a national folk hero. In a 1984 issue of the country's *Defence Journal*, he confirmed his success in enriching uranium with ultra-high-speed gas centrifuges, noting that "such an achievement by our state as a country where... we cannot make a good bicycle, or even a grating machine, speaks for itself."

When was a close associate of then-President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, who reportedly denied that his country had a nuclear arms pro-





Canadian Airlines and Air Canada jets in Vancouver: "If the two airlines merge, price competition will be eliminated"

## BUSINESS

# WHOSE JET STREAM?

Canada's straight-talking federal transport minister says that it is still too early for drastic measures. But then Corbett couldn't deny that the struggling airlines suffered by the nation's two major airlines have forced him to rethink some controversial policy choices. Together, Montreal-based Air Canada and PWA Corp., the Calgary-based parent company of second-ranked Canadian Airlines International Ltd., have lost \$220 million during the first six months of 1991. Those losses, which some industry analysts say could reach \$960 million over the next two years, have persuaded even though both carriers have eliminated thousands of jobs and sold more aircraft. As a result, Corbett says that he would consider two options that the government rejected only three months ago: allowing the two competitors to merge, or jettisoning a U.S. airline to purchase more than the current legal maximum of 25 per cent of a Canadian carrier. "We still believe that two airlines are in the best

## HUGE LOSSES ARE FORCING CANADA'S AIRLINES TO FACE SOME TOUGH CHOICES IN ORDER TO SURVIVE

interests of Canadian travellers," Corbett told *Northern*, his biweekly. "It is better to have one Canadian airline than none at all."

For now, executives at both airlines are attempting to project a confident attitude, vowing that their companies will emerge intact from a worldwide airline slump. But both carriers have been battered by that downturn. Last

week, Air Canada reported a \$30-million loss on revenues of \$968 million for the second quarter ending on June 30. That followed the former Crown-owned carrier's huge \$106-million loss in the first quarter. PWA, in turn, lost a record \$90 million on revenues of \$1.36 billion during the first six months of this year. Both Air Canada chairman Claude Taylor and PWA chairman Rhyon Ryton declared to be interviewed by *Northern* before the losses said the airlines' long-term prospects. But in recent statements to their shareholders, the two chairmen blamed the poor results on the recession and the Gulf War, which increased fuel prices and triggered air travellers. As well, Taylor cautioned that any improvement for 1991 "will primarily depend on the extent and speed of the economic recovery."

But most industry analysts say that Air Canada's and PWA's problems are more than temporary. The two airlines are still struggling to adjust to Ottawa's 1982 decision to deregulate the airline industry by allowing their ac-

cess to domestic air routes. Moreover, both carriers will undoubtedly have to contend with increased competition from larger U.S. airlines after the completion of the so-called U.S.-Canada operators' negotiations, which will likely grant carriers from both countries greater access to one another's markets. The best hope for Canada's airlines, analysts say, is to form a marketing alliance with one of the U.S. rivals.

Declared Donald Carby, a senior vice-president of American Airlines Inc.: "The North American economy will begin to operate more as one entity over the next 25 years." A former president of Canadian Pacific Air Lines Ltd., Canada's predecessor, the Toronto-born Carby added, "Aviation will have to adjust that accordingly."

At present, Canadian Airlines is clearly the weaker of the two major Canadian carriers, and much of the speculation about its future results from a recent telephone conference call at several airline analysts by PWA's senior vice-president of finance, David Murphy. PWA executives and the analysts are reluctant to discuss the details of the controversial bid, which Murphy gave after PWA released its disappointing second-quarter results. But he insists who took part in the call says that Murphy was

that the company would make a decision by year's end. The analyst added that an alliance with a U.S. carrier would be a "no-brainer." But several other analysts, as well as PWA spokesman Gerald Goodridge, cautioned last week that Murphy was speaking about a worst-case outcome.

Indeed, PWA's Ryton has repeatedly insisted that he would consider allowing a U.S. carrier to acquire an ownership stake in his airline. In July, in an interview with the *Bow Jones* financial news wire service, Ryton declared that Canadian executives "have not discussed equity" with any other airline. But Carby told *Northern* last week that he and other Air Canada Airlines executives have talked to their counterparts at PWA several times over the past few years about allowing the company as part of a possible marketing alliance. "Increasingly when you talk about a marketing relationship, you talk for ways to connect that relationship," he said. Carby also said that because American and other U.S. airlines have financial troubles of their own, their interest in forming alliances or investing in a Canadian carrier is waning.

Despite Air Canada's and PWA's continuing losses, prospects for an alliance remain between the two airlines also appear remote. So far, Air Canada has displayed an enthusiasm for solving PWA's financial problems to its own. A merger would also be politically controversial. Says Frederick Lusk, an airline analyst with the Toronto-based research firm Banting Waring Inc.: "There are 20,000 employees at Air Canada and 16,000 at Canadian. Thousands of them would be let go in a merger. Politically, it would be just a nightmare."

Consumer advocates in fact, maintain that Canadian travellers would suffer in the result of either a merger or a takeover. A U.S. ownership in a Canadian airline, David Jensen, treasurer of Transport 2000 Canada, a nonprofit Ottawa-based lobby group, says that airlines in Canada have more than Air Canada and Canadian have to face their grip on the domestic market following deregulation. He added "the two airlines merge, all employment opportunities will be eliminated." For his part, Corbett says that even though he is willing to consider any option to preserve at least one healthy Canadian airline, he expects that both Air Canada and PWA will rebound from their current difficult times. He also says that he would seriously contemplate a merger or using foreign-ownership restrictions only "if we are seeing something on my door and asked for that. Clearly, it is a hunch that he hopes he will never have."

**JOHN DALE** with **BARBARA WICKENS** in Toronto

Ryton (left) and Taylor: vowing to emerge intact

## Business Notes

### CAR SALES ACCELERATE

Canada's Big Three car manufacturers reported dramatically improved sales in July, the second month in a row that total sales have been at least as high as the previous year. Economists say that the numbers are a sign of consumer confidence that the recession is over. In July, General Motors, Ford and Chrysler sold 121,653 cars and trucks, a 12.5-per-cent increase over the same month last year.

### A NEW TURF WAR

The Cold War is over, but the burger war is heating up. Toronto-based McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Ltd., which operates the world's largest McDonald's in a joint venture with Moscow's own company, announced that it will open a second outlet in the Soviet capital in late 1992. The next day, U.S.-based Burger King agreed its largest restaurant worldwide in Budapest.

### CANADA TO LEAD THE WAY

The Conference Board of Canada predicts that Canada—along with Japan—will post the highest economic growth rates among the world's seven major industrialized countries next year. In its annual World Outlook report, the board said that the Canadian gross domestic product will grow by 3.5 per cent in 1992, compared with an estimated 1.1 per-cent decline in 1991. However, the board warned that growth could be jeopardized if uncertainty about Canada's manufacturing problems adversely affects investor confidence.

### WIN SOME, LOSE SOME

The unemployment rate held steady in July at 10.6 per cent, after gradually increasing since January. However, some opposition MPs said that the numbers were still disturbing because most new jobs were in part-time work. Indeed, Statistics Canada estimated that part-time employment grew by 18,000 in July, while 62,000 full-time jobs disappeared.

### A HARD-LOOK STORY

Bombardier Inc. says that it is considering joining a European consortium that wants to buy the Toronto-based de Havilland division of Boeing Co. A spokesman for Montreal-based Bombardier, which manufactures Challenger business jets, confirmed that his company has examined the de Havilland plant, but declined to give further details. Nevertheless, de Havilland and Alaska SpA of Italy said Bombardier is in the lead in the deal after Bombardier Canada turned down their original proposal and set a Sept. 9 deadline for a new offer.



Firestorm with artist's rendition of proposed stadium—insufficient dose

## Skating on thin ice

The Ottawa Senators want to build on disputed ground

**T**he tell, yellowed glass waters geyser in the outdoor arenas, and the clasp of crickets is louder than the speeding cars on a nearby highway. The 90-acre arena site in Kanata, Ont., 50 km west of downtown Ottawa, looks—and smells—exactly like a spot much rarer than the focus of an angry political and financial controversy. For the promoters of the Ottawa Senators, the new National Hockey League franchise that is scheduled to begin playing in the 1992-1993 season, the site is the ideal location for a proposed \$22,500-seat sports complex. But the Ottawa government opposes that plan, arguing that the field is prime agricultural land that should not be developed. The dispute's outcome could well determine the fate of Canada's eighth NHL team. Says former Ottawa mayor James Durrill, who resigned earlier this year after appearing president of the Senators hockey club: "It would say that the future of the Senators is in jeopardy."

Critics say that the future of the Ottawa Senators has been in doubt from the start. Last Dec. 6, a late-November Ottawa real estate development company, Terrace Investments Ltd., acquired the rights to the franchise at a meeting of the 21st anniversary in Palm Beach, Fla. The capstone of that day has gradually faded as the team nearly broke a record \$425.9-million

premium to the league in June—only after Paul Aulisio, who was born in Ottawa, came to the rescue at the last moment with a bribe for \$15 million—and the franchise now awaits the unanimous decision of a provincial regulatory body that has the power to block the proposed arena. The fall of uncertainty hovering over the franchise, exacerbated by the recent recession, has also scared away potential investors. Says Durrill: "There are at least two local investors I know of who have the heart, but don't have the guts yet."

The suit awarded Ottawa, along with Tampa, Fla., new franchisees because they were the only ones among the eight that applied that agreed to meet the league's stringent arena standards, including a 157.6-million franchise fee to be paid over three installments. The Senators have already put one of the three league conditions—within a month of acquiring the franchise, the team sold 9,100 season tickets, ranging in price from \$17.50 to \$54, exceeding the NHL's required \$15 million per season ticket sales by \$2 million. So far, the franchise has also met its key payments: a nonrefundable deposit of \$8.8 million last January, followed by the \$55.8 million in June. The remaining \$58.9 million is due in December.

But uncoupling the final conditions—finding a larger, more modern arena than the 23-year-

old, 9,000-seat Ottawa Civic Centre, where the team is scheduled to play its first season—is proving to be the most difficult challenge. "The main obstacle is Ottawa's aversion of agriculture," which says that Terrace should have chosen to build the arena on less desirable farmland or on an undeveloped green field site—but attracted neither option because of their higher costs.

Indeed, much of Terrace's business plan for the Senators hockey club seems to rely on dense real-estate development, like the arena surrounding the stadium, the plan calls for a farmer's market, a luxury hotel, housing units, shops, restaurants, gas stations and three office towers. Team executives say that the development is critical to the probability of the venue that many individuals and companies appear unwilling to invest in the Senators until the club receives approval to build the arena. Indeed, investors have remained reluctant even though money awarded before the December deadline date is held in trust and, until NHL rules, returned to them if the franchise fails financially—although Terrace would lose its \$5.5-million deposit.

For his part, Terrace chairman Bruce Firestone says that there is insufficient data for the hockey club to accept for other sites if it is to meet the December fee payment deadline. Added Firestone: "I feel that the position of the Ontario government has been extremely unfair. What I have seen out of the government is hostility." But Ottawa Premier Bob Rae says that Terrace must undergo the same criteria process as any other developer. Declared Rae: "We ought to let the process work so that people could not say that we are fair."

The government-appointed Ottawa Municipal Board, which has the duty to review local planning decisions, held 10 hours of hearings on the dispute earlier this year and promises to issue its decision on the coming weeks. Club president Durrill says that the Senators have no contingency plans of the local rules against the development. "There is no contingency," he says. Durrill also said he heard that the world degree Ottawa of industrial economic benefits, including 6,000 construction jobs, as well as 1,600 full- and part-time jobs to operate the stadium and the surrounding development.

In addition to the \$22.5 million the club is obligated to pay, Terrace is also required to pay \$10 million in cash and a total of \$150 million for construction costs. The company is attempting to raise \$55.8 million of that money through two stock issues. Terrace executives say that sales are exceeding, but decline to disclose any details. With only a year remaining before the franchise is to begin play, a lawsuit, it appears that team owners will have to land something just to get their hockey club on the ice.

KIMMY WOOD in Ottawa

## BUSINESS WATCH



## How to streamline our defence system

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

**T**he Malaysian government's powerful promises and planning cabinet members met in Kluang, B.C., on Sept. 27, and at the top of its agenda will be formulation of a national defence policy to replace its long-obsolete 1957 white paper.

Recent funds for new equipment are so short and will become even tighter as the finance department's new fiscal restraint program takes hold, the only chance of boosting spending will be to generate extra funds internally. That means closing many of the 33 bases no longer required for military purposes.

At the moment, the department of national defence in Canada's largest landlocked, saving 33,000 buildings with 130 million square feet of space. Most of those structures date back to the Second World War, are prohibitively expensive to maintain and, according to one estimate, employ at least twice as many people as Canada's armed forces.

For the next seven years, the department has slated at least eight bases for closure, but only three in Portage La Prairie, Man., London, Ont., and Summerside, P.E.I. are actually being shut down—while five more have been opened. The current version of the 1957 plan 20 bases will be closed with no serious military consequences, keeping three open costs hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

Another interesting saving could come about by closing one or more of Canada's military colleges. But how have three—as many as the Americans—sold me probably don't need any, and could move officers' training into civilian universities.

The largest and least efficient armed forces "base" in Canada is National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa, which employs 10 per cent of the department's personnel. Originally designed to be the new head office for the department of transport, the building is an extraordinarily inefficient mass of cubicles and poorly allocated space—an atrium, hopelessly, vertical concrete slab. The Americans

*'The workings of institutions are a mass of petty malice, carelessness and sheer mistakes. Only a fraction is thought.'*

philosopher George Santayana must have had it in mind when he wrote: "The workings of the great institutions are usually the result of a vast mass of routine, petty malice, and inherent contradictions and sheer mistakes. Only a small fraction is thought."

The obsolete bases around the country are remaining open only because they help sustain local economies, and politicians are afraid to lose long votes by closing them. The worst example of this idiosyncrasy is the base at Charlton, N.Y., slated for closure by the department since 1979. Pierre Trudeau announced that he was shutting Charlton down in 1982, but retreated after local protests. The Conservatives haven't done any better, with Mulroney pledging to keep the base open when he was still in opposition and before he could be briefed on its obsolescence. The nuclear base still has 800 military personnel, and no one seems here enough to close it.

What it takes to realize this problem is less political boney than a dose of common sense. Paced by the same problems, the Americans have adopted a competitive method of base closures that could only work here. When Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney announced last spring that 42 armed forces bases (out of 580) would be

closed and 28 others "designated" to sit in with the Pentagon's budget reductions, every Democrat and most Republicans in the House and congressional districts affected let loose with a cascade of complaints, all saying essentially the same thing: "Here we got to save money on defense, but close bases in the other guy's districts, not mine."

To break that nearly closed history, President George Bush approved a nonpartisan commission of retired air force and army generals, ambassadors and business executives and charged them with picking the bases that should be closed. What has made the commission effective is that it operates in strictly terms of reference. Congress can only vote to approve or reject the whole list of closures, rather than being the details picked at by local interests.

The commissioners helped remove the poison from the process by holding their hearings in public (usually over cable TV), with even the most senior privy council member allocated only five minutes to make his or her case—and no behind-the-scenes lobbying allowed. This effectively put to rest appeals like that of Representative Patricia Schroeder, a Democrat from Colorado, who complained that her constituents have as many bases as Texas because "we in Colorado like to say that if I moved out, the state would be bigger than Texas."

The commission reported on July 1, recommending the closure of 25 military bases and 19 research laboratories by 1997, thus saving \$1.5 billion with the closure of 800 active bases (almost the entire number of Canada's armed forces), plus closing 27,900 civilian jobs. At the same time, the Americans are closing 73 military sites in Europe, mostly in Germany, Britain, Italy, Spain and Turkey. By the end of next year, the Pentagon will be saving \$6,000 of its troops home from Europe, while we continue to feed a NATO warship that nobody needs.

These are simple ways of saving big problems. But they require a reorientation as the thought process has been traditionally geared Canada's way. It is time to ask the question: Is our first law of defence that an employment and regional development agency?

That raises great natural defence questions, not because there are any hidden risks, but because there is no silver in gold, but because that's what self-interest countries do—developing the ability to defend themselves.

As the military historian Desmond Morton has pointed out, "The country is simultaneously indecisive and indestructible. By no imagination effort could 26 million Canadians protect this country from either of its ten potential neighbours by these own unaided efforts. At the same time, no one is going to attack Canada without taking on the world's greatest military power. When Canadians talk of sovereignty as a defence objective, it is to save ourselves from the underlying potential of being delinked by the Americans."

Exactly.

When they meet in Kluang, the Malaysian cabinet members should begin the long process of separating pariah-punch politics and defence,



# MID-LIFE PANIC

THOUSANDS OF  
CANADIANS ARE  
CAUGHT BETWEEN  
CHILDREN AND  
ELDERLY PARENTS

Looking back on it, Dorothy Bell says that she knew in her heart that having her widowed father come to live in her Rockingham, N.S., house five years ago would not work out. "With mothers, that can happen: happy-go-lucky," and the 55-year-old Bell "But with his family, he can be extremely difficult." Compounding the problem facing Bell and her husband, Nelson, was her adopted son, Dawson, 14, diagnosed as being hyperactive. As a result, says Bell, she has required extra attention and patience. Bell left her job as a bookkeeper and set up an apartment in her basement for her father, David Mosier, 86. But she says that he is a suburbanite and that he soon began trying to make her operate her household the same way that his wife had. As well, her father and Dawson frequently quarrelled. Nine months after he moved in, said Bell, her father began asking the boy violently. Bell subsequently moved her father into a nursing home in the area. But she still has to take him to doctor's appointments and help in other ways. Declares Bell, "I feel I have lost two years out of my life since Dad's health began to worsen."

Bell, like an estimated 300,000 Canadians, is caught in the middle and facing the burden of looking after elderly parents as well as children. Bell and those in similar situations are the people whom some experts call "the Sandwich Generation" because its members are subjected to the demands of their children on one hand and those of elderly relatives on the other. According to an Ontario government study published last year, more than 80 per cent of

elderly Canadians are cared for to some extent by a family member. The effects on those caught in what some sociologists call a "care-giver crunch" can be emotionally and physically exhausting. Says Robert Glasgow, director of programs and research at the Ottawa-based Visser Institute of the Family, "You have a situation now in which you have adults, particularly women, caring for their children at a time when their own parents are likely to need help. As the aging of society goes on, more of the population is going to experience that."

The problems affecting members of the Sandwich Generation reflect the profound changes in the structure of Canadian society that have occurred during the past 25 years. Until the mid-1960s, few women worked outside the home, and families were larger, with more children to share the responsibilities of looking after elderly relatives. But as more women, who traditionally have provided care for their dependents, entered the labor force, many put off having children until their careers were well under way. Added to those factors are a high divorce rate, the growing number of single mothers and the increase in the number of two-income families—all of which mean that fewer women are able to stay at home.

**Fatalities** At the same time, advances in medical knowledge have reduced the fatal effects of many diseases and resulted in longer life expectancy. By the year 2006, Canadian men are expected to live an average of 75.9 years and women an average of 82, compared with 63 and 66.3 in 1961. And by the year 2036, according to Statistics Canada, almost 28.8 per cent of Canadians may be over 65, up from just 11.5 per cent in 1990. As a result, the growing number of elderly Canadians will become more pronounced early in the next century as the largest group—the baby boomers—reaches retirement age (page 37).

Already, most provinces have launched some programs aimed at helping older Canadians find people

for as long as possible—and helping to deal with the coming crunch. Many such programs provide support so that elderly Canadians can remain in their own homes longer. Said Mark Novak, a professor of sociology at the University of Montreal in Winnipeg and the author of several studies of people whose time and energy are devoted to caring for dependent relatives: "Care-giving is already one of the biggest stressors for the next century."

The problem has led to a related but alarming trend. At times, the stress of looking after an elderly parent can become so intense that some people are driven to abusive practices. They

include cheating old people financially, or mistreating them emotionally or physically (page 34). On May 16, a 64-year-old Toronto woman, Maria McCaughy, shot and killed her 35-year-old mother with a 12-gauge shotgun, telephoned an emergency number to report what she had done and then fatally shot herself. At the time, neighbors said that McCaughy had been under a severe strain, living on family assistance and looking after her invalid mother full time.

While demographic changes are expected to create an even more severe crisis in caring for the elderly in the 21st century, many experts say that it is already a pressing issue—sup-



# CARE-GIVING IS ALREADY ONE OF THE ISSUES FOR THE NEXT CENTURY

cially for women. "Women tend to do the looking-after for free, whether or not they also work outside the home," said Susan McDermott, a University of Alberta sociologist. For the most part, individuals and families begin to search for alternatives, including retirement facilities or nursing homes, only when the burden of looking after an elderly person becomes too heavy or when the older person needs long-term medical attention (page 34).

**Celti** Sociologists say that so-called adult children tend to start taking gradual responsibility for a parent's life, often without immediately realizing it as reflecting their own lives. According to Sheila Smith, a senior social worker at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care in Toronto, the process often starts with something relatively simple, like helping out in a parent's garden. Later, other tasks, including shopping and housework, become necessary. Explained Smith, "They gradually have a full-time job and tolls of their own. And what you see happens is they cut down on the easy stuff—the housework and the things they spend much less time on."

In some cases, helping elderly parents can take a heavy financial toll. All provinces provide assistance for some support services, including visiting nurses. But experts say that there is not yet enough public assistance available. Families caring for older relatives may have to pay for more assistance

firms of nursing or home care than government funding allows for, and almost all private health insurance plans have limits. As well, a family member may have to give up his or her job to help look after an elderly parent. And while the



Sutton (center) with mother, daughter Ingrid

Canada Pension Plan provides a seven-year deposit period for a person who leaves work to look after a child, it offers no help to a person who must leave the workplace to look after an elderly dependent. "If the families don't want to institutionalize, then they'll have to start paying," said Nook. "You may have to pay to meet your needs even though the system may feel your parents' needs are being met."

"The financial and emotional pressures can also cause rifts in families. When most of the financial responsibility falls on a single family member," said Glossop, "that can generate frustration and tension." At the same time, the changes roles—children looking after parents and parents becoming dependent on the children—something that many families find difficult to accept. A typical case in that of Allen, at her late 80s, who like some others interviewed by McDermott's did not want her real name used for fear of upsetting her parent. Allen said that because of her 83-year-old father's arthritis, complacency and blindness, he is no longer able to take care of himself. Said Allen: "It is like they are children again. Like many people in my situation, I find myself being a parent to a parent." Allen said that it sometimes her father at heart to get dressed in the morning. He can walk with a cane and has difficulty using the toilet. The old man's health is steadily deteriorating and that, said Allen, "is hard to watch."

**Burdens** Some experts say that the key to easing the family's burden is not simply to create more long-term beds in hospitals or elderly care facilities, but to provide the means for them to remain independent for longer periods. Some private and provincially supported programs already exist, including adult day care centres and so-called respite programs under which older people are assisted by sending the family members to get relief. Other programs that help older people to remain independent or that relieve some of the

burden on family members include the extensive, partly government funded Meals on Wheels service that delivers nutritious food to elderly people; as well as programs for home repair services, transportation and home-security checkups.

In many cases, the cost of the programs is determined by what individuals are able to pay. But, John Nylke, a sociology professor at Ottawa's Carleton University, the services are neither abundant nor readily accessible. The growing need for more support agencies, he added, "has emerged in a period of relatively slow economic growth, of spending contraction, during a decline in the belief in state intervention. So the adaptations in this new reality have been slow in coming."

**Expensive** In Victoria, where 20 per cent of the city's population is over 65, a provincially funded, \$5-million-a-year project is testing ways of caring for elderly people in their own homes. Since March, 1986, the Victoria Health Project has budgeted \$1.2 million to pay for 12 community programs involving old people. They include an adult day care centre, a family centre for people with Alzheimer's disease and a palliative care program that enables old people to be in their own homes rather than in hospitals. "There are expectations to look at," said public relations co-ordinator Rod Deacon. "The whole point of the Victoria Health Project is to deliver the right care in the right place at the right time."

Deacon said that the palliative care program grew out of programs on Victoria's only hospice, an institution designed to care for terminally ill patients. He added that because it did not have enough beds to handle all the cases referred to it, workers started to treat people at home, making pain and helping patients and their families to deal with death and grief. Deacon said that the program, launched in July, 1980, reduced the waiting list for hospice beds by 50 per cent in just six months.

Many experts say that the growing trend towards less reliance on institutional care is motivated to ease the burden of an older population on Canada's health-care system. According to Statistics Canada, during a one-year period from 1984 to 1985, elderly Canadians occupied 33.4 per cent of all hospital beds



McDermott: "Shoes tend to do the looking-after"

in the country. That often experts concern that if the trend away from institutional care occurs too quickly it without proper community supports in place, the burden on younger relatives will increase. Said Glossop, "Nobody has calculated the costs to the family that is going to

wend up assuming responsibility for the person." As well, some analysts say that family members are not adequately compensated for the time, effort and money that they invest in caring for their elderly. Said McDermott: "We have to give these people tax breaks and elderly benefits in the workplace."

**Help** Still, experts say that some elements of a broad solution to the pressures on those who care for the elderly do exist. "There are little things that will help," said Smith. "Perhaps a homemaker comes twice a week and your aunt goes to day care a couple of times a week. That may stabilize the situation for two to three years." As well, informal support groups help people looking after elderly family members to share their experiences with others. Said Smith: "To reach out and look for help outside yourself is a sign of strength."

That idea occurred that Roba, a 48-year-old mother of three who lives near Toronto, says she finally read after her 76-year-old mother had lived with her family for two years. "For women especially, there is still that old school idea of up to me, so should be free care, perfect mother and wife, and have a career, too," said Roba, who asked that her last name not be used. Her mother now lives in a nearby nursing home. "A lot of people try to do everything themselves," she said. And because and money have decreased, doing everything is impossible. And in the future, with fewer children looking after most of Canada's senior citizens, it is a responsibility that society will almost certainly have to share.

NORMA UNDERWOOD with JOANNE DEMPSTY in Halifax

## A DAUGHTER'S TRYING ORDEAL

When a heart attack killed her father in 1987, Susan Sutton abandoned her home. "This was not just my father," she says, "but a son and a child-care officer, an administrative assistant at a senior citizens' home-care service in Montreal, Sutton and her husband, Michael, a merchandise, found themselves with a son dependent—her 62-year-old mother, Susan Marshall. Now, at age 42, her mother lives in a nursing home, and she is only beginning to unravel from an exhausting ordeal. Her father's "My parents were very close. When he died, she was lost. She never really came back."

Initially living alone in her house in Phoenix, about 75 km northwest of Montreal, her mother often became disoriented, said Sutton, 42. She added, "My mother and

would often get into from my mother at 3 or 4 a.m. She would say, 'What's the point of living?' Sutton said that to reassure her mother, she and her sister, Joanne Marshall, 46, would the older woman several times a week. Then, in October, 1989, her mother suffered a stroke.

After she underwent medical treatment, she was left partially blind in one eye and barely able to speak. After yet another stroke, Susan Marshall spent four months in Montreal General Hospital. During that period, Sutton made daily visits. At the hospital, she says, she often found her mother bound to a chair to prevent her from injuring herself. On some nights, Sutton and her sister slept by their mother's bedside with a cord connected to the older woman's wrist. Said Sutton: "It was the only way they would let her sleep without restraints."

Sutton says that her mother reached a peak after her mother moved to a private, \$2,600-a-month nursing home in Montreal's West Island district. Because of the apparent mental confu-

sion that resulted from her strokes, carrying her often took Marshall away a way with Alzheimer's patients. Sutton said that her mother had 30 fits during the time she spent in hospital and at the nursing home, where she often provoked Marshall from sitting in the wheelchair. "She was not just blind," Sutton said. "She was disoriented of people who were sitting and moving all day and night," and Sutton. "She had learned on her own from other patients leaving her."

Last June, the Suttons transferred Marshall to a private nursing home where she had spent the last year of her childhood years. As a result, Sutton said that she is now able to resume a more normal life. "I actually started reading a book again," she said. She still reads her mother regularly. "Sometimes, she's back to get yourself to make the trip," she says. "That's not you, that's you, that's you. It makes her cry."

DAN PATRICK in Montreal

## AN EXHAUSTING RESPONSIBILITY

Life for Josephine Jones's family in Victoria changed dramatically after June 1977, when her 77-year-old mother, Susan Marshall, began living with them. In 1967, Reynolds was suffering from Alzheimer's disease and, because of her short-term memory loss and frequent hallucinations, she was afraid to live alone. Jones, then 36, took extra time off from her part-time job with the inventory firm of Delbert & Tochter so that she could be available when her mother needed her. Jones's husband, Richard, commuted five days a week to work as a consulting engineer in Nanaimo, B.C., and was usually unable to help. Her two children, who were 1 and 3 at the time, were in day care. Usually, Jones's last night from work was to go and pick up her mother, who sometimes went out and lost her way to someone other than her home. After six months, said Jones, she arranged for a companion to be with her mother for a few hours, five days a week. Her mother also attended a nearby adult day care centre one day a week, and getting Reynolds alone was not always easy. "Susan Jones," she said, "the world just didn't go into the car."

Other problems arose when the elderly woman would wake up early in the morning, go for a walk and get lost. "I would get up and panic, panic over my way to the hole and start looking," said Jones. Her concern increased when, on one occasion, Reynolds had four fits in a neighbor's backyard. "I was losing her five times a day," she said, "and I lost myself twice for a week." Eventually, said Jones, the burden of trying to juggle her work and her responsibilities to her family overwhelmed her. "The days were a mix of arrangements," Jones recalled. In the end, she says, she became so run down that she succumbed to one

virus infection after another. Shortly before Christmas, 1979, Jones put her mother into a nursing home in Victoria.

Jones says that the fit was not what what effect her mother's two-year stay had on her children, Stephanie, now 21, and Scott, 5. "It's hard to know how much the kids understood," she said. "I think they were told, 'they didn't get a free share of my time—although they had more time than I had for myself.' And even though her burden has eased, it has not disappeared. It's really hard becoming your parent's caregiver," said Jones. "And you don't get any responsibility for them either in a facility. You become a watchdog for them and for their rights." Now, says Jones, her mother no longer recognizes her. "Sometimes, I feel like this isn't my mother anymore," and Jones. "But I still have tears of great concern for her."

ADDIE WELLS in Vancouver

# AN INDEPENDENT PURSUIT

## MONEY COUNTS IN RETIREMENT HOMES

**S**urrounded by neat lawns and towering forests, the Crozier Manor retirement home exudes images of traditional retirement residences requiring the frills of their lifelong labors. In reality, life in the white-framed villa near the sleepy Ontario resort town of Dorset, 200 km north of Toronto, was chaotic. In August, 1988, 69-year-old Frederick Spelling died after he was attacked in a bathtub. Last February, an Ontario district court judge in Brockville found the home's operators, Wayne and Margaret Berry, guilty of criminal negligence in the case. As well, Wayne Berry was convicted of assault for hitting another resident's car and driving him with his elbow. Confronted on a tangle of misdeeds in connection with events at the home, Berry and his wife were sentenced to 20 months and four months in prison, respectively. The case drew a harsh light on the extremes that exist in retirement homes for elderly Canadians. Although many wealthy people live in luxurious retirement complexes that charge as much as \$5,000 a month and offer exercise instructors, live entertainment and gourmet dining, many low- or middle-income Canadians spend their final years

in shabby, uncomfortable surroundings.

Currently, more than 300,000 people—at least one per cent of all Canadians over 65—live in retirement homes, where they can maintain a degree of independence, or in nursing homes for the elderly affirm. Experts on geriatric care say that during the next 45 years, demand for accommodation for the elderly will soar as the number of Canadians over 65 swells to nearly 29 per cent of the total population. For many senior citizens, the quality of their lives will depend as much on their financial health as on their physical well-being. Already, many elderly people living on less than the federal old-age benefit of about \$400 a month are being relegated to bleak retirement homes with few amenities. At the same time, many middle-income Canadians have to battle to maintain their financial savings and dignity in retirement. Said Marie Pelletier, 75, who lived a substantial net worth on her \$1,100-month apartment in a Toronto senior citizens complex: "I didn't work all my life so am there like my money went off the handle."

The problems facing elderly citizens and

their families revolve around the basic issues of health care, security—and money. Each province has a complicated web of regulations governing the management of nursing facilities for the elderly. Across the country, retirement residences range from private homes like Crozier Manor to publicly supported establishments that are under government supervision. Unlike some provinces, Ontario considers a retirement home like Crozier Manor a private business and does not subject such homes to special regulations. Conditions at some unregulated retirement homes can be appalling. "There is a real mix in Quebec," said Miriam Green, director general of Montreal's Villa Marie Social Service, a public agency that provides services to children, the handicapped and the elderly. "In some of the private homes, people get great service and they pay for it. But some are terrible. Nobody monitors them."

**Spelling:** For elderly Canadians who are healthy and have ample financial resources, entering an upscale senior citizens complex is not much different than checking into a first-class hotel. At the Wellesley St. James, a 15-story senior citizens complex at Wellesley St. St. James district, seniors are received in a carpeted foyer decorated in warm pastel colors, with long-backed chairs arranged in front of a brass fireplace. Three times a week, waiters serve high tea on fine china in the Wellesley lounge, and each of the building's 630-square-foot apartments, which rent for between \$1,325 and \$1,395 a month, have fully equipped kitchens, large closets and wall-to-wall carpeting. The list of services available to Wellesley residents includes mail and laundry service, a hairdressing salon and an exercise room.

Marcelle Mulherry, 83, moved into the Wellesley four years ago after her husband, an Air Canada maintenance supervisor, died. Mulherry said that she appreciates the companionship and security at the Wellesley. "If you want to leave, you just go downstairs," she said. "If you want to be alone and have peace and quiet, you go to your apartment. Nobody bothers you." Added Alexander Blok, 76, a retired medical technologist who also lives at the Wellesley: "Life here is as you make it. I come and go as I wish. I can go downtown or visit my friends at will."

In Vancouver, the city's Creston Manor provides luxury accommodations for healthy senior citizens as well as those requiring specialized care. The cost of living at the Manor ranges from \$2,800 to \$3,900 a month. Creston Manor has 24 graciously appointed dining rooms,

decorated with fresh flowers, in courtyard settings. Rooms and suites have pools, hot and burgandy bathtubs. Residents who require daily health care are lodged in a separate wing where nursing services are available 24 hours a day. Said Creston administrator Carol Gustafson: "The nursing-home image is not what we're about."

**Spartan:** Elderly Canadians in weak health usually encounter more Spartan conditions when they move into nursing homes. That is because provincial regulations in most parts of the country are geared to creating a nursing-home system in which privately and publicly operated homes offer identical services. Ac-

cording to Michael Busch, president of the Ontario Long Term Residential Care Association, regulations in most provinces discourage or prevent private nursing-home operators from offering services that will attract the rich and the well-to-do. The result, said Busch, is a system of "hospice-like homes with no creativity."

The three-story, 260-bed Centre of several private retirement homes in southwest Montreal is one of many larger nursing homes across Canada. The floors of the centre are covered in soft red tile and linoleum, and residents sit in a large central dining hall. The bedrooms resemble those in a hospital, with sinks looked out to doors that lead to toilets.

Horacio Jaramata, 79, a former hairdresser, has lived since 1951 in the Centre d'accueil

Lasalle, where she pays \$1,100 a month. She says that the other parts of a retirement and other activities, including painting courses. She says that when she is not feeling well, she switches on a closed-circuit television channel to watch special events in the home's recreation room and relieve her sense of isolation. "I came here because the conditions were always at my door," said Jaramata, who suffers from arthritis and diabetes. "If you ever have to come to a place like this, you'd be lucky to come here."

For their part, the operators of Ontario's Creston Manor said that the building dates from five years ago and is excellent. Said

John: "There is no home for these people," said Berry, who sold Creston Manor in 1986. "There is a home around the neck of anyone operating a retirement home. If a person wanders away, you're guilty of neglect. If you touch someone, you're guilty of assault." Meanwhile, some residents of Berry's Sarah Johnston retirement home near London said that they were satisfied with his management. Declared Anna Beaman, 72: "I like it best. I am well cared for."

Even Canadians who are relatively healthy and are wealthy enough to move into efficiently run retirement homes or senior citizens' apartment complexes are not immune from

problems. In some cases, they are not even protected by regulation and must pay more. At the result, many of them say that they are under pressure to move into less expensive apartments or into publicly subsidized senior citizens' homes.

**Downs:** Toronto's Marie Pelletier, for one, moved into her apartment four years ago. Her \$1,100 monthly rent includes 15 dinners a month in the building's dining room. Pelletier, who never married, worked for 38 years as an office management executive and amassed a retirement income of \$32,000 a year. Still, she said that a proposed 40-per-cent rent increase, which residents of her building are currently appealing to provincial rental authorities, would cut heavily into her savings and probably force her to move to less comfortable surroundings. Added Pelletier: "I'll be damned if I'll reduce my standard of living."

Meanwhile, government planners across Canada are trying to make it possible for elderly Canadians to stay out of institutions for as long as possible by keeping them in their own homes. As a result, the average age of Canadians entering nursing homes that care for the severely ill has risen to 85 from 76 during the past 10 years. Experts say that many of the elderly could stay at their homes even longer if they received extensive home-care services, which are becoming scarce everywhere. Betty Blevins, Mississauga's retirement deputy manager, said that the province is now developing a new provincial program to keep the elderly "healthy and active" in their homes and communities—a policy that will postpone for some elderly Canadians the burdens of life as one of the country's most vulnerable minorities.

**TOM PENNELL** and **DAN RUSKE** are Montreal-based journalists who write for *Winnipeg* and *Adrianne* in Vancouver.



Rah (left) and Moberley retiring amid the comforts of a lush private club



Jeanette in Montreal's Centre d'accueil Lasalle: "The ambulance was always at my door"

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Horacio Jaramata, 79, a former hairdresser, has lived since 1951 in the Centre d'accueil

Lasalle: "It could have happened to anybody." According to testimony at the Berry trial, three 17-year-old men, Rick, was alone on the night shift and in charge of about 30 residents when the accident happened. According to the boy's testimony, he left the old man alone in the bathroom and later found him in the bathtub. Other witnesses said that the man had been so badly scalded that skin was falling off his body. Witnesses also testified that after the scalding was taken care of by the hospital, he was left for several hours before receiving medical attention.

Wayne Berry, who currently is free on bail while his conviction is being appealed, this month sold another retirement home that he operated near London, Ont. He said that the operators of retirement homes face many

extensive nursing homes that care for the severely ill has risen to 85 from 76 during the past 10 years. Experts say that many of the elderly could stay at their homes even longer if they received extensive home-care services, which are becoming scarce everywhere. Betty Blevins, Mississauga's retirement deputy manager, said that the province is now developing a new provincial program to keep the elderly "healthy and active" in their homes and communities—a policy that will postpone for some elderly Canadians the burdens of life as one of the country's most vulnerable minorities.

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# A HIDDEN TERROR

## ABUSE OF THE ELDERLY IS INCREASING

When Pearl McKenzie set up a law office at the nonprofit North Shore Community Services in 1985, she expected to advise a wide range of Vancouver residents. Instead, the divorcee says that almost 15 per cent of her calls now come from old people with disturbing requests for help. A widow, says McKenzie, might call to say that she has agreed to let her husband sell his car to pay for her health care and pension cheques because of her poor health or

former victims of abuse may retaliate against an elderly parent or spouse. In her study, Brenner reported the case of a 60-year-old woman who drank her husband's milk after years of caring for him. She said that the man had raped her repeatedly when she was a child and now made constant demands and complaints. Said Brenner: "Who is the victim in this situation?"

McKenzie points out that family violence is also intensified by old age. She says that

For her part, Prudence Gill, co-ordinator of the Victorian Order of Nurses in St. John's, Nfld., says that many children "don't even realize that their parents can no longer cope alone."

Although experts say that laws are needed to deal with elder abuse, they disagree about the threat that such laws should take. Nova Scotia's 1988 adult protection legislation—which allows police and social-service officials to intervene when they can prove that age is not incompetent and they suspect that someone

withstands exist—now modelled on child-abuse laws, Brenda Wall, executive director of Toronto's Advocacy Centre for the Elderly, calls that kind of approach "disrespectful and insulting." Wall said that legislation should encourage senior citizens to use existing services and recognize their rights under the Criminal Code. Said Wall: "Old age is not a return to childhood."

**Solutions:** Analysts say that the real solution to abuse lies in public education and increased social assistance for the elderly. Social workers say that old people can avoid financial abuse by giving part of their assets to two or three people, or by having their pension cheques deposited directly into their bank accounts. As well, experts say that names and other personal details should be removed

from banking or loan to recognize signs of abuse. Peggy Walker, co-ordinator of the West-populated Elder Abuse Resource Centre, has set up support teams with a financial analyst, a nurse, a social worker and a police officer that will start meeting in September. Walker says that the team will try to prevent elder abuse by helping service agencies deal with the problems of elderly clients. Julia Fidler: "The goal is empowerment, not just better protection."

For her part, Wall says that one of the most difficult problems is society's ingrained belief that the elderly are always incompetent. She added: "Until we recognize their rights, they will continue to be open to exploitation." But old people living under a cloud of fear, those rights may seem distant indeed.

DIANE BRADY



McKenzie in her Vancouver office: "He see it almost every week"

several of her clients are battered women whose husbands have recently become abusive because of Alzheimer's disease. McKenzie said that some spouses may not be sick enough to be declared incompetent, but may still become increasingly emotional. She added that a woman who was recently \$55 a week for Alzheimer's expenses may suddenly start getting \$25 because her husband's car has become impounded in the past. Said McKenzie: "It is like taking the awful aspects of my abuse and expanding them until the situation seems almost surreal."

Despite the pressures on people torn between the demands of children and elderly parents, analysts say that they rarely physically abuse or steal from their parents. But their frustration and anger can lead to psychological abuse or neglect that is almost as damaging



Even bowling: entering the senior consumer

Altogether, governments and companies have begun to respond to the growing number of older Canadians. Margaret Cohen, executive vice-president of Corporate Health Consultants in Mississauga, Ont., said that during the past year, a number of Canadian companies have begun to explore the types of assistance that can be offered to employees who are obliged to look after an elderly parent. Cohen added that as the population ages, companies may begin offering flexible work schedules and subsidizing to employees who are caring for elderly relatives.

Architects, developers and home builders will also play a major role in accommodating Canada's elderly, according to Abramson. He said that many healthy and independent senior citizens begin the slide towards dependence as the result of accidents in the home. Abramson said that a kitchen counter that can be raised allows a senior citizen to open a drawer without bending over and raising a fall. Overhead light fixtures that can be lowered allow an elderly person to change a bulb without climbing on a chair or climbing a ladder.

**Shortage:** The increasing proportion of elderly people in the Canadian population will also cause a serious labour shortage by the turn of the century, according to Victor Marshall, director of the University of Toronto's Centre for the Studies of Aging. According to recent projections prepared by the Ontario government, workers aged 55 to 64 will represent only 17 per cent of the province's labour force by the year 2001, down from 21 per cent in 1989. The labour shortage is developing at a time when an increasing number of individuals are retiring early, when older producers from their nonunion-strapped employers.

Although the number of retired people is increasing, pension expert Lawrence Gendall and that the Ontario will be able to maintain its current Old Age Security Program and the Canada Pension Plan (CPP)—but at great cost. Gendall, a former executive vice-president of Toronto-based William Mercer Ltd., a pension and benefits consulting firm, predicted that firms will have to increase to cover the costs of Old Age Security while worker and employer contributions will rise sharply to sustain the CPP that the uncertainty-conscious Canadians, who may be a small price to pay to maintain their pensions.

BY ARDY JONKIN

## COVER

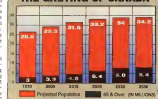
# A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

## CANADIANS BEGIN TO THINK AHEAD

In a George Abramson's orange bubble for the future in the 12th floor of a Toronto office tower, he can open the front door with a remote-control device and raise or lower the kitchen counter—along with the drawers below it—with a motorized mechanism. According to Abramson, director of the program technology branch of the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services, the equipment is designed to simplify housework tasks for Canada's elderly population. In June 1990, Abramson and his colleagues set up a model house and equipped it with dozens of labor-saving devices. Said Abramson: "These products create convenience, not inconvenience, but they are important to the elderly."

According to most experts on aging, governments and the private sector will be forced during the coming decades to develop programs and products to meet the needs of senior citizens. Statistics Canada estimates that the number of Canadians over 65 will

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## BOOKS

# The Mohawks' war

A new book chronicles the Oka crisis

ONE NATION UNDER THE GUN: INSIDE THE MOHAWK CIVIL WAR  
By Rick Hornung  
(Ottawa, 304 pages, \$25.95)

Last month, a book about conflict generated its own conflict. Rick Hornung's *One Nation Under the Gun: Inside the Mohawk Civil War* deals with riots that appeared in 1999 when the

book. Few of North America's aboriginal peoples dealt with the conquest of European civilization or they hesitated to flee as the Mohawks have. As key members of the Iroquois confederacy who once shared control of a rich territory that stretched from the Hudson River west and north to what is now southern Ontario and Montreal, the Mohawks have revealed almost four centuries of foreign invasion and appropriation by holding their ground—or

in the Akwesasne territory of St-Basile, Que. Police officers from New York state, Quebec and Ontario then entered the reserve.

In *One Nation*, Hornung offers a detailed account of the events leading up to the killings before shifting his focus to last summer's Mohawk uprisings in the Kanawake Mohawk community and the Akwesasne reserve. For the author, the common ground between the Akwesasne conflict and the subsequent sieges in Quebec is that the valiantly resistant Mohawk warriors sought to play prominent roles. The warriors counted that Mohawks would secure their collective future by creating a sovereign state based on their traditional laws and customs, as well as on the modern practices of gambling and marketing to free themselves and unregulated trading. Hornung writes that the warriors "saw the line of the great, prohibitive, impenetrable wall the street wars of a modern underground economy."

Hornung, whose book is sympathetic to the warriors' point of view, places much of the blame for the Akwesasne crisis on the province's self-proclaimed justice. According to the author's research, differences began to escalate in 1989 when an anti-gambling mob mediated Tony's Vegas International casino in the New York region of the reserve, costing \$458,000 worth of damage. That incident—followed by other attacks by the anti-gambling mob—both the casino and three superstitious—prompted the warrior society to serve as protectors to the gambling business and the 800 jobs that had created on the New York side of the reserve. In turn, band council leaders called the authorities for police intervention—an act of treason according to each warrior leader in Akwesasne war chief Francis Bouché.

Now, even such prominent Mohawk militants as Art Matisoff, who was sentenced in Syracuse, N.Y., to a 15-month prison term for organizing a warrior blockade in Akwesasne, acknowledge that the conflict boiled down to a self-defending struggle for control of the community. Says Matisoff: "The police are not the problem, it is how we view among ourselves."

As Hornung's research reveals, internal divisions may also have prevented the Mohawks from presenting a united negotiating stance to benefit from last summer's standstill in Kanawake and Akwesasne. As Akwesasne, in the aftermath of the gambling conflict, the author found that even the leadership of the warrior band dissolved into unfriendly factions. For now, the only independence the Mohawks appear to be gaining is from each other.



Scenes from the conflict: the warrior leadership has dissolved into factions

Mohawk community in Akwesasne, a 28,000-acre reserve straddling the borders of Ontario, Quebec and New York state. The book also examines last summer's armed standoff between Canadian authorities and Mohawks from the Montreal-area communities of Kanawake and Akwesasne. On July 15, the Quebec Superior Court imposed a temporary suspension on dissolution of One Nation in that province. The second top prominent Kanawake Mohawk, Gilles Gauthier and Denise Tully, both of whom are quoted in the book, had claimed that reasons attributed to them were false and defamatory—and that Hornung had not even interviewed them. But on Aug. 3, the Superior Court ruled that the book's allegations were unfounded and lifted the suspension.

The legal battle pales in comparison with the Mohawks' internal problems, which Hornung documents with great thoroughness in the

small parts of it, at least—and adapting to mainstream North America's capitalist culture. But in Hornung's view, as in *One Nation*, the survival-wisdom evolution of the Mohawk people has also created some deep political divisions as the community. And those divisions have grown into a new threat to the Mohawk nation: the Mohawks themselves.

The civil war referred to in *One Nation* occurred in the spring of 1990 in Akwesasne, near Cornwall, Ont. Hornung, a staff writer for the New York weekly *The Village Voice*, viewed the scenes of the battle of the street conflict. The violent peering dispute had been precipitated by a perceived—largely the initiative of Canadian Mohawks—to stop a flourishing casino gambling trade on the New York side of Akwesasne. The conflict resulted in a tragic peak on May 1, 1990, when two Mohawks were killed during an outright shootout

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BOOKS

## Catty about Kitty

A dirt-dishing biographer gets trashed

POISON PEN: THE UNAUTHORIZED BIOGRAPHY OF KITTIE KELLEY

By George Carpan Jr.  
(Overlook, 366 pages, \$22 U.S.)

Early last year, Washington writer Kitty Kelley, already a muckraker from her previous celebrity biographies of Jacqueline Onassis, Elizabeth Taylor and Frank Sinatra, walked her way into more bitter, barbed and controversy when her book *Wine Women: The Unauthorised Biography* was published. Kelley claimed, among other things, that Nancy Sinatra—cold, aloof, shallow and vindictive—may have had a lesbian attachment to university, her daughter. Pat with a hairbrush and had a romance with Frank Sinatra while she was in the White House. The book was as irrelevant as its author's former fact-bely that some reviewers said it had actually accomplished the impossible: generating sympathy for Nancy Sinatra, a woman rarely acknowledged hard-to-like women. Kelley's book was, at most, in the beginning of a media denance, as none of its claims were repeated and sustained focus on the front page of the stand New York Times with present delight. (It became a runaway best-seller.) But it also generated the beginning of a backlash against the author, now 49, in which her claims

were disputed, her journalistic ethics were questioned, her personality was dismantled and her physical appearance was endlessly commented upon (short, heavy, wrinkled mouth). The education of that backlash is *Wine Women: The Unauthorised Biography of Kitty Kelley*, by George Carpan Jr., a book that has the trash-to-water soaring to new levels.

Carpan, a former editor at the gossip tabloid *The Star*, the author of several celebrity biographies himself and a self-admitted voter of Kelley's questionable style—he claims she lived national show Frank Sinatra from his trash-to-water soaring to new levels. Kelley, a former editor at the gossip tabloid *The Star*, the author of several celebrity biographies himself and a self-admitted voter of Kelley's questionable style—he claims she lived national show Frank Sinatra from his trash-to-water soaring to new levels. Kelley, a former editor at the gossip tabloid *The Star*, the author of several celebrity biographies himself and a self-admitted voter of Kelley's questionable style—he claims she lived national show Frank Sinatra from his trash-to-water soaring to new levels.

Kelley: Her former publisher says, "To know Kitty is not to like her"

as about *Wine Women* (they are now divorced), and some extraneous sexual liaisons. More recently, she has come under suspicion for more theft—she mysteriously acquired author Barbara Howard's then-unpublished autobiography—and is suspected as well of having dated anonymous phone calls and lost remaining letters to people who have publicly contacted her. "To know Kitty is not to like her," her former publisher Lytle Stuart is quoted as saying. (Stuart acknowledges to be the publisher of *Poison Pen*, but he asserts that he has no personal grudge against Kelley.) Kelley's intricate dissection of Nancy Reagan's clumsy past goes in part and sustained by Carpan's description of Kelley's "massive Dolly Parton last overhanging a somewhat stumpy longish figure." Talk about it! For it, Kelley's accusations about Nancy's pro-feminist personality are supported by Carpan's depiction of Kelley's own sexist behavior—she "plastered her books against the legislature's bars for a very telling picture"—and of one of her efforts, which resulted in "the landscape performing like prison." Readers even get to know her favorite poem—probably, on fog.

There is a microscopic scene running through *Poison Pen*. Kelley is described by various people as a "no-good bitch," a "bitch bitch," a "heavily made-up, pretty bitch"—and one certain even has a further lower revealing that he left her bed in a hurry when he saw how unattractive Kelley looked without makeup.

The glib writing detracts from the far more legitimate questions that Carpan raises about Kelley's professional conduct. They include how she and her researchers allegedly misrepresented themselves to people they wanted to interview, how she had her husband root through Elizabeth Taylor's private to search of material, how her books are filled with acknowledgments to people who say they were never interviewed, how she made accusations (like claims to be interviewed by Peter Lawford, for example, none that a week after he had been cremated), how she borrows heavily from other writers without acknowledging her facts.

The book's writer might have examined the whole genre of the celebrity biography, and why contemporary society, desperate for intimate details about the rich and famous, makes stories of the perversity of that information so matter how they get it, and so matter whether it is true.

The truth is that most journalists, Kelley included, are not nearly as entertaining as the subjects they write about. Carpan never does so much as mention the only pertinent question about Kelley/Kelley: "What is the question?" The beginning of the book, "What is the question?" Kelley/Kelley: "The answer is a screaming 'Who cares?'"

JENNIFER TOLSON

## Affairs of families

A first-rate writer captures her generation

WHAT WAS MINE

By Ann Beattie  
(Random House, 237 pages, \$26.95)

Most of the strength of Ann Beattie's fiction springs from her ability to capture social detail. As a result, her characters have changed a lot since she last published in the mid-1970s. With her ninth book, the short-story collection *What Was Mine*, the talented young people who smoked themselves, listened to music and wondered what they would do

"Imagine" also reaches on one of the book's central themes—a largely unspoken sense of mortality.

The narrator of that story is one of the few fully married people in the book. The wife in "Home to Mine" plans an elaborate career party and then, just as the guests are expected, tells her husband that she has not actually married him and that she is leaving him. "The Longest Day of the Year," a welcome-welcome story with a wife of a marriage counselor visits the home of a couple about to separate. The hilarious results provide the

disillusioned man and woman with one last moment of tenderness before they split up. Finally, the novella that closes the book, *Windy Day* at the Museum, chronicles the changes in two couples that take place at the end of both marriages.

*What Was Mine* does, however, offer moments of wisdom from "The man and woman in 'You Know What' have a loving marriage, even though the husband sometimes mistakenly suspects that his wife is cheating. But the story returns to the subject of *Poison Pen*: the husband's last paragraph, but far from being an end theme, the writer concludes on the husband's last line about his daughter will find out the eventual death of those around her. By extension, he acknowledges his own fear of death.

Beattie explains, drawn in Beattie's short fiction. In "Beattie's Truth," the issue of Beattie's own of a woman's college-age can eventually produce an uncomfortable resolution for her. In the collection's title story, the narrator, Beattie, recovers two photographs taken on separate occasions of the father he never knew. The labeling of the two images is transparent, and the discovery helps him to understand the painful relationship between his mother and her lover, a man he grew up calling Uncle Herb. In an effort to maintain her own sense of loyalty to the memory of her late husband, the mother went through the elaborate charade of pretending that Uncle Herb was a brother. Her actions were not so far

from once after the fact, who was then or ten years old at the time, found Herb in his mother's bedroom.

Beattie quickly captures Beattie's observations to the meaning of what he has just seen—and to the fact that Herb is a drinker. Beattie writes: "Herb was there, but I had no sense of that fact. Because I was a clumsy boy, I didn't wonder about his occasionally looking into a well or stepping off a curb a bit too hard. He was not allowed to drive me anywhere, but I thought only that my mother was full of arbitrary rules the impossible to keep on more than one hour of the TV. But Beattie's glass first, then the milk." It is not until years later that he realizes how Herb and his absent brother shaped his life.

The writing is clearly aware with Beattie, in spirit, but the way in which she dissects people and events and shows the status back and forth, moving. Coming after *Poison Pen*, which Beattie's last novel, *What Was Mine* may be burdened with the weight of overdone expectations. Certainly, the title story, as well as "Windy Day at the End of Your Life" and the two longer pieces, "You Know What" and "Imagine a Day at the Museum," show Beattie in top form. Unfortunately, some of the others do not, either their endings are too oblique and the moments of insight are lost, or the stories simply seem too much and unsuccessful. But the collection's irreverence does not detract from its value as a portrait of Beattie's generation in its current stage of evolution.

TIM FALCONER

## Maclean's

BEST-SELLER LIST

### FICITION

- 1 *The Russian God's Wife*, Tan (2)
- 2 *As the Crow Flies*, Anker (2)
- 3 *Monsters*, Gifford (2)
- 4 *Intimacy*, Fendley (16)
- 5 *Maximum Rock*, Leonard (15)
- 6 *Red Lines*, Decker (15)
- 7 *Freedom*, Decker (15)
- 8 *It's Not for Her*, Gifford (15)
- 9 *Man's Dilemma*
- 10 *A Soldier of the Great War*, Mifflin (15)

### NONFICITION

- 1 *Toujours Proust*, Mifflin (12)
- 2 *The British of France*, Mifflin (12)
- 3 *Iron John*, S.J. (12)
- 4 *Cherbourg*, Gifford (15)
- 5 *Heavily Altered*, Len (16)
- 6 *When You Look Like Your Predecessor*, Mifflin (12)
- 7 *It's Time to Go Home*, Decker (15)
- 8 *Performance of Women*, Gifford (15)
- 9 *One Woman Under the Gun*, Mifflin (15)
- 10 *Red Lines*, Decker (15)

(1) First-time best-seller

Compiled by Bruce Berman



# A sparkling diamond among the dowdies

BY STEWART MARLEGO

Yes, indeed, you could see the one wearing a mile away. Talk about a perfect setup! Here we were, languishing in the summer doldrums, totally bereft of news, and then Mulroney took off to London—first passing to the Blarney Stone—to spin warlike stories with the Canadians.

That in itself wasn't the perfect setup. Those summer gatherings occur with meticulous regularity, largely so the Prime Minister can tell us what a high-class shoulder-ribs Canada has become since the Trudeau government begged our way into the "Group 7" of year-end G8 talks.

No, it was the magnificent Mila who graced the above-mentioned setup and truly won predictability. With her Maggie Thatcher out of her way—and her faithful husband, Denis, no longer facing the otherwise-female "press" stable—the London tabloids could finally tell their brides. Yes, she was Mila's moment for the tabs, a sparkling diamond among the dowdies, a strawberry spritz with an all-gal team, to make lovers to perfume. And, hey, did she do well? Mind you, a \$10,000, or whatever, evening dress is no mean feat. But still, the London tabs did themselves, and the Prime Minister's wife, proud. "Mrs. Canada steals the show" was one headline. "The star of the show was sexy Mila Mulroney," said another.

And that was just for starters. It was discovered that our "muzzing" seemed to be "up right up to her Chanel earrings." So even the most insouciant of Britain's sassy tab-lovers said that about poor Denis.

Now here, if George Bush will simply stay aside for a moment, we're going to do a bit of media watching. Let's see over devices, of course, a pattern not a tinker's dream, what the tabloids of London do with Mila and her wife's unveiling. What's of greatest interest—or, in this case, amazement—is what the Canadian

*Let's face it, if the people didn't want to hear all about Mila's moment for the tabs, the media wouldn't act as the messenger*

could do with it. And let's face it, if the people didn't want to hear all about it, the media wouldn't act as the messenger.

But ever since we discovered misogyny—probably while searching for that elusive Canadian identity—we've had this idea obsession with what outsiders say about us. And, like a bed-wetting teenager, we never seem to grow out of it.

Consequently, there was nearly a half week of Mila-in-London news or, more specifically, what the tabs told of Mila in London. And because the revelations—or reports—involved a real live Canadian, whom foreigners actually noticed, it became a front-page sensation.

It matters not that we didn't accept one iota of new information on the lovely lady or that we have had seven years to decide among ourselves whether she's a looker. And in there one breathless Canadian told us that the Prime Minister's wife is Mrs. Brexton, that her clothing budget could outpace all the firms in Kuwait, that when it comes to stealing shoes, she's a world-class kleptomaniac!

The difference is that now we really know. The London tabs have told us it's no longer,

we could only hope that our assessments were reasonably accurate.

About that, recent survey of Canada by the stuffy magazine called *The Economist*. Not since the discovery of penicillin has a Canadian-based story attracted so much attention—in Canada, that is. Massive excerpts appeared everywhere, attesting to the fact that British politicians find a troubled country across the ocean with an "unresigned attitude to government."

Canada was at a bit of a mess—*The Economist* said so—sad, among other things, Quebec had "cultural insecurity and economic self-suspicion." Protesters "had excluded from decision-making."

Sound familiar? Well, but now it's graded. For all we know, some indicated researcher in London was merely rewriting editorial from old Canadian weekly newspapers. But coming from *The Economist*, it was certainly worth at least a half page in the *Toronto Globe and Mail*. Similarly, with Mila stealing the moment, it was worth half a page for the *Montreal Gazette* to send a reporter around to her favorite Montreal fashion haunts.

It turns out the "lives Scarborough Street, but the night occasionally make a detour to Gey's 5000 Louis Vuitton clutch bag..." At that point, it's clearly worth clucking. "Mila is also very fond of headscarves worn by Mother Superior Linda Laing, which sell in the area of \$425." And, oh yes, we're told she's always buying stacks of parchment at a stall where they range from \$3.50 to \$190. Quite a price range, but no doubt allowances must be made for those with needs to our lips.

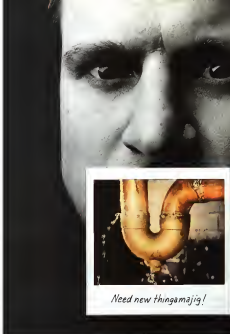
In Ottawa, the British recognition of Mila led to similar stories, with one boutique manager insisting it wasn't appropriate to discuss Mila. "But if you see her wearing our stuff, you can make assumptions."

Now, what could that assumption possibly be? That she bought the stuff, like the rest of us, at Canadian Tire?

Until this particular subtext out of London, there had been tentative indications that we Canadians were showing engagement in dealing with our embarrassing impotence. There are actually one or two male-in-Canada celebrities, crossed without foreign assistance. And this, one supposed, would certainly lead to a healthy indifference towards what outsiders say about us. Take Glen Keane, the parliamentary protester who's taking 13 top-drawer Times to court. He got where he is today without help from either the British tabs or Johnny Carson. And it's long appears to be doing OK.

But the MLR show really indicates we have a long way to go. There may have been progress since 1960, when a known-based news-service reporter—now grey and also bedridden—had to breathlessly report that the Northern Ireland visiting Ontario, Mary Queen of the South, "is a woman who is a bit slow." But as it's now turning out, this progress is depressingly slow.

Stewart Marlego is Ottawa columnist for *Thema* News Service.



*Need new thingamajig!*

## HOW TO SPEAK QUICKLY WITHOUT SAYING A WORD.

If it's a horrible feeling trying to describe something when you can't find the right words.

Most of the time "thingamabob" and "what-chamacah!" just don't seem to cut it.

Well, the next time you need to explain some-

thing right away, take a Polaroid Instant Picture. It'll save you developing a whole roll of film and inventing a whole new vocabulary. Enough said.





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the King of England  
& 18,600,000  
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loves  
a good  
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*Captain Morgan*

\*While some people refer to this as the King of Rum, the legend may be questionable, we can unequivocally vouch for the popularity of Captain Morgan. Rum is loved by over 100 million.